TUNIS (R) — Britain told the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Friday that in favoured Palestinian self-determination and did not oppose the creation of a Palestinian state, the Palestinian news agency WAFA said. British Ambassador Stephen Hill met PLO Politisl Department head Faronk Kaddoumi in Tunis to deny reports in the Israeli press quoting Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd as saying he opposed creation of a Palestinian state, WAFA added Palestinian personalities in the Israeli-occupied territories refused to meet Hurd in occupied Jerusalem Wednesday in protest against the reported statement. Britain said Hurd had been misquoted. Hill also told Kaddoumi that London was in favour of an international peace conference on the Middle East, WAFA said.

They also discussed the Oct. 8 killing of Palestinians by Israelis in
Jerusalem. Kaddoumi called for sanctions against Israel and that measures be taken to protect Palestinians in the occupied territories.

Volume 15 Number 4525

AMMAN SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 1990, RABI'A THANI 1, 1411

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams

Yemen unveils **Guif peace plan**

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Gun P ler the harmen veiled a Gulf peace plan that cause veiled a Gulf peace plan that cause for Iraqi forces to quit Kuwait and U.S.-led forces to withdraw from Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, lenoir's ed in 1909. th up to spr to died in A Arab and other allied countries, the armed forces weekly 26 fortune to September said. It quoted inisfield the formed sources as saying there were five other main points in the Yemeni peace plan besides a troop withdrawal by both sides. (S dying) they said these included lifting if the United Nations trade blockade against Iraq, granting the Knwaiti people a right of self Stole filts comprehensive settlement for all dving of cathe Middle East problems. The veckly said the proposal called Tuesday to r for an inquiry into the real causes behind the Iraqi invasion of Knwait which should be dealt with in a "suitable and just" way, in an Arah or international framework. It also called for a new economic framework in the region to eliminate a big gap between the "rich and the poor."

Soviets won't reveal Iraq military details

CANBERRA (AP) - A Soviet

Foreign Ministry official said Fri-

day his government would not reveal to the United States details of military weapons it has supin) izmit, it plied to Iraq. At a media conference, ministry spokesman Gennady Gerasimov referred to a 1972 treaty with Iraq on econoar iswart mic and military cooperation when asked if the Soviet Union's intelligence organisation, the KGB, could brief Washingtoo on er ahile beve laqi military capability. He said secrecy provisions existed in relation to all Soviet arms supplies and no such information would be provided. He said he did not believe war to the Gulf was inevitable. He said other means, particularly sanctions, needed to be used to "force Baghdad to behave. You must understand it is not that easy to go to war. You will have victims and you will have catastrophic consequences for the world economy because of the price of oil going up and up and up." We (the Soviet government) do have certain advantages - if you can term it advantage in that we are on speaking terms

Iraq telis foreigners to register

with Saddam Hussein."

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq has told foreigners in Kuwait to report to officials dealing with residence permits by Nov. 15. A Baghdad television announcement in Arabic and English gave no reason for the order but said people who failed to comply could face de-portation. "Those who fail to show up will be liable to legal measures and the irrevocable cancellation of their residence permits," said the broadcast to non-Iragi and non-Kuwaiti residents of "the province of

British warpiane crashes in S. Arabaia

LONDON (R) - Two British air force crewmen were injured-when their tornado GRI ground attack plane crashed on landing after a training flight in Saudi Arabia, the Defence Ministry said Friday. It was the first British warplane to crash in the Gulf since Britain sent forces there after Iraq's invasion of Kuwait Aug. 2. Britain now has more than 50 warplanes to the region. Last week the United States air force grounded all training flights m the Gulf for 24 hours for a safety study after about 20 accidents involving warplanes and helicopters in which more than 30 people were killed.

Hostages reportedly moved to Bekaa

BEIRUT (AP) - American and Buish hostages held by pro-Iranian extremists were taken out of Beirut's southern slums to east; Lebanon's Bekaa Valley last week, Lebanese military intellistace sources said Friday. The transfer preceded the joint attack by government troops and the Syrian army that crushed Michel Ann's rebellion in the Christian heartland of Beirut Saturday

Moscow pursuing peaceful solution in Gulf — Primakov

Combined agency dispatches

WASHINGTON - The Soviet Union is exerting maximum efforts to resolve the Gulf crisis through peaceful means, a senior Soviet envoy said Friday.

Yevgeny Primakov, a special advisor to President Mikhail Gorbachev, told reporters after meet-ing with President George Bush: "I cannot say that I have brought specific or convoluted or detailed ideas. But at the same time, we, the Soviet Union, are trying to do our utmost to attain the objectives that were set to the U.N. resolutions through peace-

ful means." A report in the Washington Times, meanwhile, said Gorbachev had sent a peace plan with Primakov for Bush. The newspaper, quoting unidentified U.S. officials to Moscow, said the plan calls for free elections to Kuwait and cash compensation for oil sales Iraq claims to have lost as a result of overproduction In return, Iraq reportedly is willing to reverse Iraq's military

While Primakov visited Washington, U.S. Defence Secretary Dick Cheney was in Moscow calling on the Kremlin's top military and foreign policy officials. Cheney has met with Gorbachev, Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and Defence Minister Dimitri Yazov.

Primakov said Thursday after a meeting with Secretary of State James Baker that while Iraq should not profit from its invasion of Kuwait, military action against Baghdad should be avoided.

At a news conference earlier this week, Baker said Iraq had recently indicated tentative interest in a vague compromise settlement that might involve the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Kuwait if Baghdad were allowed

(Continued on page 4)

Ramadan: Europe, Arabs envision negotiated solution

AMMAN (J.T.) — Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassir Ramadan has said that a "process of negotiations" may be in the offing to reach a solution to the Gulf crisis.

He said the Gulf crisis has entered the "phase of reassessment and reconsideration of positions," during a brief visit here Thursday, "This makes us hope that the few coming days will intensify contacts and deepen talks aiming at ending the crisis," Ramadan said in an arrival

the catastrophe which America is trying to drag them into," he said.

"There is an intention to find a peaceful solution in the Gulf as it is Ramsdan held two hours of talks with Prime Minister Mudar Badran at

"Many world countries... have started to feel the dangers of the crisis and

Amman airport, and then left immediately for Baghdad.
Thursday's visit was Ramadan's second in less than two weeks and the

third since Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

Earlier this month, Ramadan visited Amman prior to a tour to North African countries, where he delivered messages from Iraqi President

"We have made important progress," Ramadan said Thursday, referring to his talks with the leaders of Sudan, Tunisia and Morocco, Libya and

"This was achieved during exchanges of views on the crisis and discussions on the joint efforts exerted to find means of coordinating our stands in the future," he said,

U.N. ponders massacre probe

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) - Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar was to give the Security Council a private briefing late Friday on his delayed efforts to send a mission to probe the killing of Palestinians by Israelis in

occupied Jerusalem last week. sion, despite Israel's refusal to

An informed source said Israel offered to provide a copy of the report of its own inquiry into the

(Agencies) - Police clashed Fri-

day with Palestinians who were

blocked for a second consecutive

week from attending prayer ser-

vices on Jerusalem's Al Aqsa

Mosque where at least 30 Palesti-

nians were killed by Israeli forces

In a sermon in the Al Aqsa

Mosque, preacher Mohammad

ernment launched a campaign Friday to dissolve the feuding

militia groups that tore the coun-

try apart in 15 years of civil war.

ters Lebanon's seven armed mili-

tias, estimated to number 40,000

men, would be disbanded and

ed over to the Lebanese army,

Their weapons would be hand-

disarmed within six months.

Government officials told Reu-

on Oct. 8.

incident, due to be completed shortly, but still refused to receive the proposed U.N. team. The U.N. chief called to Israeli Ambassador Johanan Beio

Bein told reporters: "We

before the end of the mooth.

Over 100 wounded in clashes with soldiers

Israelis prevent Palestinians

from attending Aqsa prayers

Israeli occupation authorities

were interfering with religious

freedom and called it "an action

thorities that you are preventing

worshippers from getting into the

house of God. This is not in the

religion of Moses or Jesus," be

Report of Aoun troops massacre kicks up furor

pected the government to move

urbs, the stronghold of militants

and of kidnap groups holding 12

Western hostages.
President Elias Hrawi seeks an

equitable sharing of political

power among Muslims and

But he faces a daunting task in

disbanding private religious and

political armies in his drive to

Christians.

next into Beirut's southern sub-

"I say to the occupation an-

The probe is linked to a resolution adopted by the Security Council a week ago condemning

resolution as biased, opposed any U.N. interference in what it considers its "undivided capital," Most members of the Security

urged the secretary general earher this week to go ahead with his mission, eveo without Israeli

(Continued on page 4)

lus, Khadejeh Mograbi, a woman

in ber sixties, died when soldiers

fired tear-gas into her house as

she tried to prevent them from

Police used water cannons to

disperse hundreds of Palestinians

who refused to leave after they

(Continued on page 5)

reunite the country after toppling his foe, Christian General Michel

leave for France Friday, but

Aoun himself, ousted in a fero-

cious battle Saturday, remained a

fugitive in the French embassy.

Lebanon wants to put him on trial

Official sources said "the doors

as a war criminal.

Acun's family was allowed to

arresting her four sons.

Heath arrives en route to Iraq By a Jordan Times

Staff: Reporter

AMMAN — Former British Prime Minister Edward Heath King Hussein.

relatives of those in Iraq and then

who was ousted from the leadership of the Conservative Party hy Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in 1975, rejected criticism over his mission from fellow members of the House of Commons. "We are a free country and if they want to be silly they can,"

Heath did not give a specific timeframe for his stay in Baghdad. "I will meet President Hussein and will go back when it is

"I will ask Saddam that the

agreed that we will cooperate in A U.N. spokesman declined to trying to find ways and means to say whether the secretary general facilitate the secretary general to write his report and present it." would press ahead with the mis-

Thursday.

Bot he declined to answer mestions about the U.N. mis-

sion, whose findings are to be presented to the Security Council

the Oct. 8 massacre. The Israeli cahinet rejected the

and said it would not cooperate. Council were reported to have

arrived here Friday en route to Baghdad on a mission aimed at ish nationals held to Iraq. During his stay here, Heath was expected to be received by His Majesty

In remarks to reporters upon his arrival. Heath said he was scheduled to meet with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein on Sunday on releasing British nationals who are detained in Iraq as deterrents against attack. He said he was approached hy

hy British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd, who in turn is arguing that the initiative came from the former prime minister "I thought it was right to try Heath said in Amman

Friday. "Letters have piled and telephone calls never stopped." The former prime minister,

be said.

appropriate.

(Continued on page 5)

legislature gave preliminary approval Friday to President Mikhail Gorbachev's embattled economic reform plan.

market system. The Supreme Soviet voted 350-

12 to favour of the plan, with 26 ossible amendments.

me "the only rational course of action" in urging its passage. In a 50-minute, low-key speech, Gorbachev also dismis-

a centrally planned system was a His rival, Russian President

Boris Yeltsin, has lambasted Gorbachev's programme as a "catastrophe" that is "doomed to fail" within months after touching off inflation and unemployment.

of the 15 Soviet republics may day plan as early as Nov. 1

wave of inflation. 'Comrade Yeltsin's assertions

are strange, to say the least," Gorbachev said. "I'm under the impression that the Russian leadership is afraid of difficulties and wants to pass on responsibility for possible difficulties and consequences... onto central organs of power."

invited to join the 542 national lawmakers in listening to Gorbachev's speech in the Supreme Soviet's beige marble hall, but

Jordan's economy will collapse in 1991 without aid, U.N. envoy reports

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) of this year because of the trade unless something happens in the - Jordan's economy, crippled as a side effect of the international sanctions against Iraq, will collapse next year if other countries do not aid the Kingdom, according to a U.N. expert just back from Amman

"Its a particularly heavy blow for a country which was already recovering from a financial crisis," Jean Ripert said Thursday after returning from Jordan.

Ripert went to Jordan as a special emissary of U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar to assess Jordan's problems resulting from the economic embargo on Iraq.

Jordan, he said, will lose about 51 billion between Ang. 2, when Iraq invaded Kuwait, and the end

embargo on Baghdad, its major trading partner.

But in terms of the proportion of Jordan's gross national product lost due to the embargo, he said, the picture is far worse.

For Jordan, in 1990 it is a figure around 30 per cent. For next year, it could be something above 50 per cent," he said. "They are drawing on very, very limited reserves. The ques-

tion is, will Jordan be able to survive," Ripert said. When asked how much Jordan might lose in total in 1991, Ripert

"We don't believe that it would be very meaningful to extrapolate. Something has to happeo.

region," he said. Ripert said it is true that Jor-

dan is receiving oil from Iraq, but said its economy would collapse without that fuel.

Jordan is not paying for the oil, but crediting it against Iraq's debt to Jordan at a rate of \$16 per barrel, far below the current mar-

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker told Congress Thursday that both the Iranian and Jordanian governments seem to be honouring the U.N. sanctions against Iraq. "We believe the Iranian government when it says

tions... And we believe the (Continued on page 5)

it is going to observe the sanc-

Arab League condemns Israeli massacre after wrangle in Tunis

Such a country will not survive

TUNIS (Agencies) — The Arah League has condemned Israel over last week's killing of Palestimians in Arab Jerusalem but compromised on criticism of the Un-

The resolution was passed Thursday night after modertes and hardliners patched up a split

It condemned the Oct. 8 bloodand hardliners patched up a split that mirrored the Arab World's division into two hostile camps over Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

The Palestine Liberation Organisatioo (PLO) led a walkout wheo foreign ministers and delegates voted 11-10 against a draft accusing Washingtoo of bias to favour of "Israel's policy of rep-

ression and terror." "I congratulate you oo your friendship with America," Farouk Kaddoumi, the PLO's foreign affairs chief, told the

majority scornfully as he left.

sters from Irag. Sudan and

North African deleagations

talked them into returning. The final resolution, approved unanimously, urged the United States to "change its policy to favour the national rights of Palestinians and

hath in Jerusalem as a "new aggressioo against the (Al Aqsa) Mosque of Jerusalem and the Dome of the Rock" and called for United Nations sanctions against Israel for its refusal to submit to U.N. resolutions.

The Arah League majority — Egypt, Syria and the Gulf states strongly oppose Iraq's August tovasioo of Kuwait.

The PLO has refused to condemn it. Others are against the U.S.-led military build-up in the Gulf or sympathise with Irag's

efforts to link the crisis to t

Arab-Israel conflict.

The Tunis meeting was the league's best-artended session since the Gulf crisis hegan, although most of the pro-Kuwait camp sent only amhassador-rank delegations.

The Jerusalem massacre threatened to drive a wedge into the broad alliance which the United States has formed against Iraq. Washingtoo's stance, supporting a United Nations probe which Israel has refused to receive, angered Israeli leaders as well as the Arabs.

Delegation sources said that the six Gulf states and Egypt, Syria, Lebanon, Djibouti and Somali voted against an earlier resolution tabled by the PLO.

The PLO, which earlier this year held talks in Tunis with the

Saudis step up pressure with curbs on Aqaba-bound cargo

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Saudi Arabia has introduced a series of unprecedented measures clearly designed to step up pressure on Jordan through restricting the flow of seafreight, and unless the situation is redressed soon Jordanian industries will face major problems, according to senior government and ship-

ping officials. The Saudi measures, which have resulted to transhipments destined for Jordan piled up at Jeddah in the Red Sea over the past two weeks, follow Riyadh's expulsion of Jordanian diplomats, cut-off of oil

of import of Jordanian agricultural produce, and tightening regulations for Jordanian expatriates living in Saudi Ara-

In addition to the piling up of over 200 containers destined for Jordan at Jeddah, a "new Saudi trend that has surfaced in the last 48 hours is making it difficult for ships to sail to Agaba from Sandi ports to pick up Jordanian exports of phosphates," Tawfiq Kawar, president of the Jordanian Shipping Agents Association,

Kawar said an Indian ship, Mangal Desai, which docked at Jeddah on Oct. 17, was not given permission to set sail for Agaba to load Jordanian phosphates and the captain of the vessel had to resort to "pretenses" before leaving the Saudi port and head towards Agaba. "This is very serious." Kawar told the Jordan Times. "As it is the situation is very difficult, and now it appears that they (the Saudis) also

want to block Jordanian exports," he said. Kawar said that about 200 Jordan-bound containers with general cargo were held up at Jeddah and the Saudi port authorities are refusing repeated efforts by Jordanian shipping agents to pick these np. The containers were unloaded at the Saudi port by ships which

(Continued on page 5)

Baghdad announces rationing of petrol

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq said Friday it was introducing petrol rationing, acknowledging for the first time that the U.N. trade blockade over its invasion of Kuwait was hitting the economy.

Oll Minister Issam Abdul Rahim Al Chalabi told a news conference rationing would start Tuesday. He also disclosed that oil production had fallen to 350,000 to 400,000 barrels a day. "The only reason behind this is to ensure that we will have

micals required to make these products for as long as possible," Chalabi said. Iraq, with the world's second largest proven oil reserves, ex-ported 2.8 million barrels per day

enough of the additives and che-.

of crude and refined oil products before the U.N. Security Council imposed sanctions on Aug. 6. Chalabi said Baghdad was not tapping oil resources in Kuwait, annexed after the Aug. 2 invasion

and declared Iraq's 19th pro-

He declined to say how long Iraq could continue to refine petrol and lubricating oil and would not discuss the implications for its. one million-man army, nearly half of which is deployed in or near Kuwait.

These things have been taken into consideration and we will have to ensure that we supply the army's requirements," he said. The U.N. embargo, imposed to try to force President Saddam

Hussein to withdraw his troops from Kuwait, has stopped all Iraqi oil exports except for a mall amount to Jordan and cut off its imports. Shortages of high-octane petrol

were noticed in provincial Iraq last week. Long queues of cars formed at petrol stations in Baghdad Friday after rationing was Iraq introduced food rationing

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued on page 5) Soviet legislature approves Gorbachev economy plan

Shortly before the vote, Gornachev accused his key rival of shirking responsibility for the difficult transformation to a free

abstentions, and began debating Gorbachev called his program-

sed concerns that the switch from retreat from socialism.

proceed with a more radical 500-

Gorbachev said be shared Yeltsin's concern about the country's deteriorating economy, and his fears of inflation. But he noted the Russian Parliament recently raised the wholesale price of meat, and said this touched off a

Leaders of the republics were

(Continued on page 5)

supplies to Jordan, suspension







U.S. navy said to have dumped Jordan-bound steel pipes into sea

By Caroline Faraj Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — American warships recently intercepted a Cypriot ship heading for Aqaba and dumped part of its cargo into the sea, informed sources said.

The ship, carrying goods from the Far East to Jordan and Iraq, had discharged goods bound for Iraq at Hudaidah port in Yemen under the supervision of U.S. navy, which gave the captain a certificate to the effect that the goods destined for Iraq were

scized, according to the sources. The ship then headed towards Aqaba and while near the Sandi port of Jeddah it was intercepted by U.S. warships, which gave it the go-shead sign because it was found our that h did not carry anything violating the sanctions, the sources While passing near the Tiran Straits, an American destroyer bearing number 34 on its huli stopped it on Sept. 11, and an American navy officer went aboard, searched it, examined the cargo and checked h against the log book, the sources said.

After the search, the officer reported that the cargo does not conform with the manifest although he was presented with a certificate that the goods bound for Iraq were discharged at Hadaidah. The officer did not listen to the argument and ordered a cargo of

steel pipes dumped overboard. The order was carried out. To waive their responsibility for what happened to the cargo, the ship's crew recorded all the events and took photos of the dumping of the cargo into the sea, the sources

said it was not aware of any such incident. In a written statement, the embassy quoted the U.S. Censaying: "There is no U.S. navy ship operating in the Gulf area with hull number 34. There has never been an instance of U.S. navy personnel boarding a ship and dumping car-go. We are not aware of any similar actions by other navies supporting the interception programme. Such an action is contrary to established guidelines and is not permitted." The statement added that the

U.S. policy permits merchant shins bound for a non-prohibited port to be diverted if the boarding party finds discrepancies between the statements of ship's master, licensing, registration, log information, cargo manifest, and its actual car-

1 30 invast

The senators, led by Alan Cranston and Bob Packwood, submitted a resolution opposing the sale hours after leaders of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) urged them to back off, said sources familiar

"This is the first time that pro-Israel forces have ever tried to block opposition to a major arms sale to one of Israel's enemies." said one Capitol Hill

The administration last month notified Congress that it plans to sell the Saudis \$7.54 billion in tanks, anti-tank missiles, rocket launchers, helicopter gunships and other weapons deemed necessary to block an attack from Iraq. If Congress doesn't oppose the deal by Oct. 27, it goes into

The administration is banking on support for its anti-Iraq policy to push the sale through Congress, where pro-Israeli lawmakers probably would have balked at the unprecedented sale to an Arab state.

The State Department reasoned that lawmakers would be unpopular with their constituents if they opposed selling weapons to a country where more than 150,000 American troops

are deployed. Israel and its lobbyists in Washngton have objected — often successfully — to every major Saudi arms sale in the past decade, building an almost legendary reputation of influence in

the process But AIPAC, bowing to reality, decided to hold its fire until the administration presents to Congress a second package for the Saudis next January, sources

That proposal, estimated at over \$10 billion, is expected to include the most advanced F-15 jet fighters and is of significantly greater concern to Israel and its supporters than the largely landbased arsenal being proposed

The lobby's strategy to withhold opposition to the first sale also grew out of concern about jeopardising various proposals in the House and Senate to help Israel get millions of dollars in emergency weapons against a

perceived Iraqi threat. A delegtion of Jewish leaders went to Secretary of Defence Dick Cheney last month and promised bim it would not oppose the current sale. Similar assurances were given by AIPAC to the State Department's pobcy planner, Dennis Ross. And one of the Jewish community's top leaders, Max Fisher, paid a call on President Bush and offered his

support, too. Imagine, then, the administration's surprise when it discovered last week a well-advanced plan by a group of senators to oppose

large portions of the Saudi sale. But when Ross called AIPAC Director Tom Dine to complain, he was in for an even bigger surprise. AIPAC, which has been credited by critics and supporters alike for having vast pull in Congress, didn't know about the law-

Israel tells U.S. of plans to settle Jews

TEL AVIV (R) - Foreign Baker weakened Israel's claim to Minister David Levy has told the United States that Israel would press ahead with settling Jews in the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem.

His message to U.S. Secretary of State James Baker was described by Israeli officials as longstanding policy, but it appeared to backtrack on an Oct. 2 letter saying the government would not settle Soviet immigrants across the 1967 "green line."

The latest disclosure appeared certain to intensify Arab protests over Israel's settlement policies bringing in thousands of Soviet Jews. It coincided with a Damascus announcement that Arab League states will blacklist transport firms taking Jewish settlers to Israel and the occupied terri-

Levy wrote: "You are well aware that in the (earlier) letter there is no undertaking, either direct or indirect, to refrain from construction within Jerusalem or anywhere else, including Judea, Samaria (the West Bank)

He had come under intense who said his earlier letter to Arab Jerusalem.

Arab Jerusalem and threatened its plan to settle areas occupied in

Levy's previous letter had helped win Washington's agreement to guarantee repayment of \$400 million in commercial loans that Israel will use to build housing for the Soviet Jews flooding into the country.

The new letter, widely publicised in the Israeli media and also shown to Reuters, was to be delivered to Baker Thursday by the Israeli ambassador in Washington. It said U.S. aid would not be used beyond the "green line" but did not mention limits on settlement of Soviet

The domestic attacks had focused both on Levy's reference to the "green line" and his guarantee to provide Baker with regular reports on Israeli settlement

After Levy's earlier letter stated "Israel's policy is not to direct or settle Soviet Jews beyond the green line." The gov-ernment announced plans last Sunday to build 15,000 more criticism from domestic critics apartments for immigrants in

Opponents of Gulf role mobilise in America

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts tion in the Middle East. (AP) — A diverse coalition of Americans is taking to the airwaves, handing out leaflets and holding teach-ins in an effort to awaken opposition to U.S. in-

tervention in the Middle East. A round of protests began Thursday at Harvard University. where students and faculty held teach-ins reminiscent of the Vietnam era. The events continue through Saturday, when rallies are planned in at least 15 cities.

Television ads opposing U.S. intervention and starring Viet-nam veteran Ron Kovic aired for the first time Thursday, and support was widening for a Marine corporal facing court-martial in Honolulu after he refused to go to Saudi Arabia with his unit.

"The response we've been getting is tremendous, versus how long it took to build up opposition to the Vietnam war," said Charles Twist, spokesman for the New York Coalition to Stop U.S.

Intervention in the Middle East. This time, though, the coalition members range from veterans groups and labour unions to disabled people and environmentalists. Groups representing the the elderly also are involved. A protest march on Saturday in New York City will

begin in Harlem. "It's a big step forward from the '60s when the majority of the in the Middle East. anti-war movement was mostly white and mostly students,"

Twist said. Organisers credit this apparent about the morality of sending soldiers to the Middle East, but

also to the cost. "The front pages are full of the budget crisis," Twist said, "It doesn't take much to make the connection that we're spending billions to keep our troops there at the same time we're cutting social security" for the elderly

and disabled. Anti-intervention leaders, who complain they have been virtually ignored by mainstream media,

said the word is being spread."
There's been very little negative response and not a lot of leaflets end up on the ground," said Phebe Eckfeldt, spokeswoman for the New England

Coalition to Stop U.S. Interven-

Veterans' groups bave been particularly active in the opposi-

The days of U.S. veterans blindly supporting their government are over since Vietnam. said Winston Warfield, president of the 400-member Smedley D. Butler Brigade of Veterans for Peace. "U.S. soldiers are being asked to pay the ultimate price in a war for oil and to protect the grotesque profits of multinational oil interests."

Kovic, author of "Born on the Fourth of July," also made into a film starring Tom Cruise, appears in a 30-second television spot, funded by money raised from veterans and peace groups. In it, he says U.S. troops are risking their lives "not to defend democracy, but to protect the big oil companies." Kovic is scheduled to address a Los Angeles rally

Labour unions also bave been drawn to the protests.

"Yon've got inflation, budget cuts, joblessness, and now the war," said Nan Genger, an organiser for a United Auto Workers local that is co-sponsoring the schednled for Boston "Working people are nuder

There also are events planned Saturday supporting U.S. forces

In Atlanta, where protesters plan to gather at a downtown military induction centre Saturday, families of soldies stationed broad appeal not only to concerns in the Gulf have scheduled a counter-demonstration.

And in Savannah, Georgia, residents will bake and airlift 120,000 brownies to the 24th infantry division now in Saudi Ara-

The U.S. government began sending troops to the Middle East shortley after Iraq's Ang. 2 takeover of Kuwait. There are now more than 200,000 troops cus. Foreign ministry officials from the United States and other countries in the Gulf region.

from the two countries have ex-A recent Washington Postchanged official visits recently. On Wednesday, officials in ABC news poll showed 60 per cent of people questioned believe the United States should keep Ankara announced that the Syrian government agreed to pay \$3.4 million in compensation for troops in the region until Iraq the downing of a private Turkish withdraws from Kuwait. Five airplane by Syrian warplanes last year near the border, killing five. weeks ago, the figure was 75 per

23 / 33

23 / 35

Rafsanjani keeps options open by resuming Iraq ties

NICOSIA, (AP) - Iran, whose moderate government is fighting hardliner opposition to better ties with the West, has indicated it was accelerating its return to friendly relations with Iraq.

Iran said it will reopen its Baghdad embassy, swap all remaining PoWs with its former Gulf war foe, and send Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati to visit the Iraqi capital.

The normalisation of ties with Iraq is born of Tehran's need to neutralise a powerful enemy and keep its options open in the flind Gulf crisis which erupted after Baghdad's Aug. 2 invasion of

For more than a decade, Iran found itself isolated and boxed into a corner because of Arab World fears it was trying to ex-port Isamic fundamentalism and destablise conservative govern-

Iranian President Hashemi Rafsanjani is determined to land on his feet, no matter what the outcome of the Gulf confronta-

He wants to end his country's isolation, and rebuild ties with the West and his Arab neigh-

To demonstrate Iran's leverage in the crisis, Tehran has hinted it may send food and other essential to Iraq, despite a U.N.-imposed economic embargo aimed at forcing an Iraqi withdrawal from

Iran has officially condemned the invasion of Kuwait and said it soon after. would comply with the sanctions.

Ozal ends

Syria visit

DAMASCUS (AP) — Turkish

President Turgut Ozal left Syria

Thursday after a two-day visit,

winding up his tour of five Arab

countries that included extensive

Ozal met earlier in the day with

Syrian President Hafez Al Assad

for talks dominated by Iraq, with

which both Turkey and Syria

share borders. The two leaders

also discussed the overall situa-

tion in the Middle East and bi-

lateral issues, but no details were

immediately available, according

to the Syrian news agency

Diplomats said Ozal, who is

the first Turkish president ever to

visit Syria, explained to the Arab

leaders he met Turkey's position

on the Iraqi invasion of Knwait as

well as economic and other reper-cussions of the crisis on the Mid-

Ozal also visited Egypt, Qatar,

Saudi Arabia and the United

Turkey and Syria have called

for Iraq's unconditional with-drawal from Kuwait and the res-

toration of the Kuwaiti emiri

The two leaders were also be

lieved to have discussed two-way

cooperation, as they share a

Ozal is the seventh president of

Turkey since it became a republie

in 1923, but none have visited

Syria, which like most of the rest

of the Middle East was once part

In 1987 Ozal became the first

Turkish premier to visit Damas-

1,000-kilometre border.

of the Ottoman empire.

(SANA).

dle East region.

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government.

discussions on the Gulf crisis.

might assist Iraq in poking a hole in the embargo has caused consternation in Arab capitals aligned with the United States and other

Western nations against Iraq. By resuming relations with Iraq, Tehran is also catering for those anti-Western Muslim fundamentalists in the region who are calling for the formation of a pan-Islamic front with Baghdad against the United States.

As part of that same policy, Rafsanjani is also placating radical opponents at home, who consider the United States the greatest enemy of the Islamic

Those radical opponents are aghast at the presence of Western troops in Saudi Arabia, site of Islam's two holiest shrines, and want Rafsanjani to back Iraq in confronting Washington.

Noting Iran's need to use its leverage in the crisis, the Englishlanguage Tehran Times justified the improvement in relations with Iraq by arguing that since a "pobtical settlement of the Persian Gulf crisis is unlikely to succeed without Iranian help ... Iran should bave a vital presence in the capitals of the Persian Gulf

Abul Qassem Shashaie, the Iranian chargé d'affaires in Baghdad who will preside over the Saturday embassy opening, told the Associated Press Thursday that Velayati will visit Baghdad

He added that "I and my com-

But the indications that it panions are really very pleased to be here among our brothers." Shashaie's announcement coincided with a report on Tehran Radio that Iran and Iraq will resume a prisoner of war exchange next week, after a month-

long swap was suspended in mid-

September without any official

explanation from either side. The report monitored in Nicosia quoted Manouchehr Mottaki, PoWs will return home next

Both sides abruptly halted the exchange begun Aug. 17, during which some 75,000 prisoners on both sides were repatriated.

all the Iranian prisoners had been sent home, except those serving jail terms for crimes they committed as PoWs.

stranded on both sides.

Middle East analysts believe Iraq halted the swap to speed up

the normalisation of ties. They add that renewed ties with Iran is a diplomatic coup for

The Tehran Times said Thursday that Iran had appointed Mohammad Kazem Khonsari, former ambassador to Libya, as

its new ambassador to Iraq.
The paper said Khonsari would leave for Baghdad in a few days.

deputy for international affairs at the Iranian Foreign Ministry, as saying more than 230 Iranian

Sources said Iraq had claimed

But the International Commit tee of the Red Cross, which coordinated the swaps, estimates some 25,000 prisoners remain

Congress backs Bush's past actions, questions future

WASHINGTON (AP) - Mem- should or should not do," Baker bers of Congress still back President George Bush's actions in the Gulf, but both Democrats and Republicans are questioning what his administration might do next with 200,000 soldiers in the

on key committees dealing with foreign affairs praised, grilled and lectured Secretary of State James Baker for a total of five hours Wednesday and Thursday... Baker rejected appeals from

several members that he commit to getting congressional approval for any military action against

Iraq.
"I really think it would be had days of debate about what we al leaders.

Congressman Dante Fascell, Democratie chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Commit-tee joined calls from the Senate Foreign Relations Committee for group to be set during the Senators and representatives npcoming congressional recess to consult with the Republican president over the Gulf crisis.

> "The president's use of force must be carried out in the context of a declaration of war or other, congressional anthorisation, Fascell said.

Baker rejected the idea of setting up a special congressional group on the Gulf but said the self-defeating... if Congress was called back into session and we consult with regular congression-

Israeli police announce capture of bike bandit

TEL AVIV (AP) — Police have police said.

"We were very close to the "bikerbank" bandit when he attempted to rob his 23rd bank. As an indication of how badly police had wanted the man, Police Minister Roni Milo went on national radio to announce the

"According to the present information, I do not think there can be doubts regarding the sus-

pect," Milo said. The suspect, an Israeli in his 30s, has spotted in the Tel Aviv suburb of Ramat Gan after parking his red and black motorcycle at a back entrance of a Bank Leumi branch.

He reportedly fled without entering the bank when he spotted a

police car. But a police team already had blocked off the area. The pursuit, which included police firing and backup from a belicopter, lasted for seven and a half minutes,

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

area, heard reports on the radio ... and noticed a bike rider who fled on a small road," police officer Shlomo Braunstein told a news conference in Tel Aviv.

"I was directed into the courtyard where the suspect was and stopped him. Afterwards we continued searches and found the suspect's bike and the pistol," Braunstein said.

The bandit - nicknamed "bikerbank" or "ofnobank" in Hebrew — robbed 22 banks in a dozen towns over the past 22

He became a local hero because of his ability to elude police. Israel Television did prime-time reports on his exploits, and the daily Hadashot newspaper ran a series of articles trying to pierce his mysterious ways. There were even T-shirts that said "bikerbank."

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

Meditators aim to ease Gulf crisis

FAIRFIELD, Iowa (R) - About 4,000 transcendental medita tors assembled in this town surrounded by comfields are nearing the end of a week-long effort to ease tensions in the Gulf through the power of positive thought waves. "We feel we've been getting good results," a spokeswoman for Maharishi International University said Thursday. The effort will come to an end Sunday but "we're inviting anyone who wants to, to stay for a few more days. When you turn a light off darkness just floods back into the room," said the spokeswoman. "We don't want a quick rise in negativity, we want a dimming effect." Practitioners of a form of transcendental meditation called "sidhi" are attempting to spread positive energy into the Gulf region to influence the course of events. They believe that a small fraction of the population can influence things if they concentrate their efforts together. Keith Wallace, a researcher at the university, said the effort will be measured later by doing a content analysis of newspapers published during the time the meditation was in progress. The university was founded by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi.

Japan withdraws I raq invitation

TOKYO (AP) — Japan has withdrawn Iraq's invitation to send a delegate to Emperor Akihito's enthronement, which will include dignitaries from more than 150 other countries, the Foreign Ministry said Friday. "In light of the invasion and annexation of Kuwait, the invitation to Iraq has been withdrawn," spokesman Taizo Watanabe told reporters. Iraq's ambassador to Japan was informed of the decision Thursday and "expressed regret," Watanabe said. Baghdad had accepted the invitation but had not specified which official would attend the Nov. 12 ceremony, he

Bangladesh seeks EC help

BRUSSELS (R) — Bangladeshi President Hossain Ershad asked for European Community (EC) help Thursday to weather the Gulf crisis, but EC Commissioner Abel Matutes said the EC would only act as part of a broad international effort. "Matutes said the (EC's Executive) Commission was looking at the situation, but that it wanted to act in the context of an international effort," an EC spokesman said. "We have neither the resources nor the responsibility to take everything on our shoulders. There are institutions better equipped than we are to do this," the spokesman added.

Italian couple detained in Iraq marry

BAGHDAD (AP) - A Sicilian man held hostage by the Iraqi government was married Thursday after the government gave his fiance a visa to come to Baghdad. "This is fantastic," groom Paolo Carpino, 32, told reporters after his wedding at a hotel here. Government officials and friends from Italy clapped, and in keeping with Italian tradition, threw rice - a symbol of fertility - at the newlywed couple. Carpino is one of 325 Italians who have been detained in Iraq since Baghdad's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait. "We are in love for the past 16 years but I could never imagine I would get married here," his bride, 30-year-old Maria Colosa, also from Sicily, told reporters. Colosa flew into Baghdad on Thursday after the Iraqi government gave her a visa and said it had no objection to their marriage being performed in Baghdad. Carpino has been working as an electrical engineer in the port city of Basra for the past 18 months.

Turkish author to pay damages to Ozais

ISTANBUL (R) - The author of the book about Turkish President Turgut Ozal was ordered by a court Thursday to pay 80 million lira (\$29,000) damages to the Ozal family. The semiofficial. Anatolian news agency said an Ankara court ordered
Emin Colasan to pay the damages for defamation in his book,
"Where did Turgut Spring From," the first in Turkey on the past
of the Ozal family. The same Ankara court ordered the
mass-circulation daily Bugun to stop publication of extracts of the book in April 1989 when the court case had begun.

Poisonous mushrooms kill 9 in Turkey

ANKARA (R) - Four children and five adults have died and 36 people are in hospital after eating poisonous mushrooms, key's state radio said Friday. Autur fields of mushrooms in rural areas around Istanbul and doctors have warned people against picking the wrong variety. At least 25 Turks died after eating poisonous mushrooms last year.

Firefighter may be headed to Gulf

HOUSTON (R) — Legendary oil firefighter Paul "Red" Adair may be headed to the volatile Gulf to stand by in case Iraq attacks the region's vast oil wells, industry sources said. A spokesman for Houston-based Red Adair Co. told Reuters preliminary discussions have taken place between U.S. government officials, company representatives and members of Kuwait's toppled regime. "Their has been some discussion but so far it has only been talk," the spokesman said. "No money has changed hands and no equipment is moving." The spokesman said Red Adair is currently in Houston and has not yet been asked to go to the Middle East. "If they wanted us to, we can get (our equipment) there just as fast as our government and their government let us." the spokesman said.

Garrison in Afghan town besieged

KABUL (R) — Mujahideen guerrillas Friday stepped up pressure on Qalat, the capital of Afghanistan's southern Zabol province. Reports from the area said the fort of Qalat was surrounded by thousands of Mnjahedeen guerrillas, who said the provincial capital would be in their control within two or three days. Military sources said about 200 govrnment troops, food and medical supplies were flown to Qalat as reinforcements. Zabol province borders Pakistan, from where the rebels can supply their positions. Most of the countryside is under rebel control.

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FOR THE TRAVELLER QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL **AIRPORT**

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Muslim scholars reject Saudi justification of foreign forces

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - A group of Muslim scholars has declared that the invasion by foreign forces of the Arabian peninsula and the holy places there constitutes a flagrant aggression on Islam and the Musim people, which should be confronted by all means.

At the conclusion of a seminar organised by the Islamie Studies and Research Society, a statement was issued saying that the "Muslim peoples shoulder a senous responsibility towards Al Aqsa Mosque and towards protecting the Islamic shrines and nations in the face of foreign domination and aggression."

The seminar has called on Arab and Islamic nations of the world to "confront and thwart Zionist plans and conspiracies which aim at demolishing Al Aqsa Mosque for building a Jewish temple in its place and at exterminating the Palestinian people."
The seminar, held Thursday and attended by Parliament members, university professors and religious leaders in Jordan, discussed the question of Islamic governments enlisting the help of non-Muslim nations to launch

The statement urged rulers of Arab and Islamic nations to unify their ranks and fend off the dangers posed to their faith and their holy lands and to evict the foreign forces from the Arabian peninsu-

war against Islamic countries.

The statement voiced the participants' condemnation of Western attempts to starve the Muslim people of Iraq and said that the participants considered the U.N. Security Council resolutions as null and void and unjust because they aim at achieving colonial objectives in the lands of the Muslim natious.

Several working papers dealing with the question of foreign forces and Israel's practices in the

occupied Arab lands were reviewed at the meeting which was addressed by Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Ali Al Fagir and the society president Ishaq Al Farban

wars of the crusaders.

American activists arrive

By Lamis K. Andoni Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - An American delegation of peace activists arrived in Amman Thursday night on "a war prevention mission" that will take them to Iraq where they are expected to meet with President Saddam Hussein.

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Members of the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), a 75-year old American interfaith organisation committed to non-violent solutions of world problem, have asked to stay with Iraqi families and to explore the possibility of volunteering and sending volunteers to stay in Iraq and (or) replace American nationals held against their will, in a bid to

prevent a military confrontation. The idea of volunteering to may in Iraq, however, is not mely an attempt to help Ameran nationals to leave, but is printent with the group's modus opened that has been pursued any times to build an American mional consensus against an American military intervention

against other countries. C. Douglas Hostetter, the leadet of the group, explained that this strategy had worked in the past in humanising the enemy and making it difficult for the American Administraion to secure enough support for a military

strike. "We challenged Americans to be willing to meet Iraqis face to face," Hostetter said, "to tell them that we are their enemies, and do not feel that they are

Hostetter, who has lived with paintings by his own two children Palestinian families in the Israeli occupied West Bankd and Gaza Strip and with Nicaraguan families, believe that bringing people together can be very effective to prevent war.

FOR has become the first American group to publicly challenge American official claims that United Nations Security Council sanctions amounted to a total embargo against Iraq by bringing \$76,000 worth of medical aid to the evacuees from Kuwait and Iraq and also to the Iraqi Red

'Many people were surprised that the American government could not stop us," Hostetter said, explaining that the group's lawyers found no violation of American or international laws in the delivery of medical supplies

"It is immoral and illegal to hold food and medicine back from civil population," he

The group said that their efforts in the U.S., demanding a pullout of American troops in the Gulf, enjoy wide support from church groups nationwide.

"War is increasingly becoming unpopular (in the U.S.)," he said. 'But we have to show people that there is an alternative."

The group, composed of Pro-testants, Catholics, Muslims and Jews, is also carrying paintings for peace by American children

to Iraqi children. Hostetter, who is carrying In his address Faqir expressed

regret over the fact that Islamic scholars and ulemas had issued fatwa (Islamie ruling) backing calls by certain Arab countries for foreign and non-Muslim nations to send forces to confront Iraq. He said that according to Islam, these scholars' views should have been sought before taking political decisions and not after forces had been sent to Sandi Arabia.

The presence of foreign forces in the Arabian peninsula, Faqir said, reminds the Muslims of the

This time, be said, the foreign forces came to the region to kill the Islamic awakening, seize the oil fields and destroy the Iraqi military power which had been supporting the Palestinian people's nprising against Israeli

on war prevention mission gard."

aged eight and four and a half, said that he found difficulty in talking school teachers into the He said that school teachers in his home town of Nyack near New York city, were heavily in-

fluenced by the American media. "They were afraid that Iraqi terrorists, will be sent to the U.S. and hurt the children," Hostetter

The teachers were also concerned that Saddam Hussein will use the paintings for propaganda purposes, they said.

Finally, after a long debate and with the backing with the school principal, teachers agreed pro-vided the names of the children were blacked out.

"If this is happening in a city 20 miles away from New York city, you can imagine how things are elsewhere," be commented. ...

He said that the delegation cieved a lot of support on an individual basis, and that he sensed an important change in the attitude of the press towards the growing movement against American military intervention.

Some, particularly journalists. asked him and others if they were afraid that they would be held by the Iragis. Hostetter said that he did not believe that this would be the case, especially that Iraqis were cooperative in arranging the

My biggest worry is that Israel tional law. or the U.S. will attack Iraq (during the groups' stay)."

Izzeddin: Jordan seeks a peaceful end to Gulf crisis

TUNIS (Petra) - Jordan does not have an integrated plan to solve the Gulf crisis, but it rather has a set of ideas which complement other Arab countries' views and focus on means of finding an outlet for the crisis by peaceful means, according to Minister of Information Ibrahim Izzeddin.

"Jordan made moves in the first days of the crisis to find a political solution to the problem because Amman is aware of the dangerous consequences of a military confrontation in the region," said the minister in a statement to the Tunisian magazine Al Shuroug published Thurs-

Jordan, he said, has been seeking to make the world face up to its responsibilities and seek a peaceful end to the crisis rather

than a military confrontation.

Recently there have been several signs, like the French president's initiative, indicating that the world is inclined to have a peaceful end to the problem; that initiative and statements by an envoy of President Gorbacher point to the fact that peace can be achieved, the minister said.

He said that France, the Soviet Union and China were trying hard at the international level to find a peaceful solution to the problem and "there are Arab coordinating matters in this re-

The minister said that Jordan had been facing a great deal of economic pressure as a direct result of implementing the sanc-tions against Iraq and had not received any promised financial assistance to help it overcome the

"Jordan has been promised assistance by Japan and Germany, and negotiations are underway with the European Community for its assistance to the Kingdom which would hopefully be forthcoming before the end of 1990," the minister said.

He said that Jordan had incurred losses estimated at \$1.1 billion during 1990, and the situation could aggravate if the crisis continued.

Jordan, he said, has spent \$50 million on aid to the evacuees in addition to offering local services like transport and health, and Amman is now trying to obtain ompensation for such expenses.

Referring to Saudi Jordaman relations Izzeddin said: "Jordan trying to save the Jordanian and Saudi citizens from being influenced by the tension caused by strained relations between Amman and Riyadh simply because Jordan believes that this tension would sooner or later end and that rift would be healed."

He said that Jordan continued to avoid any action that can cause a deterioration in inter-Arab relations and is therefore trying, at all levels, to find a peaceful settle-ment to the Gulf crisis through direct contacts with all parties.

The minister of information eriticised the U.N. Security Council which was prompt and states backing such efforts and firm in dealing with the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait, but failed to provide protection to the Palestinian people.

He said that the world would watch to see if the council does anything against Israel's rejection of the council's resolution, which, if not implemented, "will cost the United Nations Organisation its

Algerian speaker due here after APU talks in Baghdad.

AMMAN (J.T.) — Speaker of the People's National Council in Algeria Abdul Aziz Belkhadem arrives in Amman from Baghdad Saturday, at the head of a delegation, to pay a three-day visit to Jordan at the invitation of Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Suleiman 'Arar.

Arar, who is accompanying the Algerian delegation from Baghdad, has together with Bel-khadem attended an emergency meeting by Arab parliamenta-rians in the Iraqi capital to discuss the situation in the occupied Israel's massacre of Palestinian worshippers in Jerusalem.

The parliamentarians condemned Israel's crime and urged Arabs and Muslims to extend assistance to the Palestinian people to step up their struggle against occupation.

The parliamentarians also condemned he American-led invasion of the Arabian peninsula and the embargo imposed on Iraq as unjust and not based on interna-

Addressing the meeting in Baghdad, Arar said Jordan was shouldering its responsibility towards backing Iraq's endeavours against the invaders and the enein the face of the aggression, and

called on Arabs and Muslims to join forces and help liberate Al Aqsa Mosque and the other holy shrines in Jerusalem and the rest of the occupied Arab territories.

Arar voiced Jordan's appreciation of Iraq for convening a meeting in Baghdad to express solidarity with the Palestinian people following Israel's criminal actions The foreign invasion of the

came to thwart Iraq's efforts to back the Palestinian people's uprising against the Israeli occupa-"The American-led conspiracy

Arabian peninsula, Arar said,

against Iraq is one that is also directed against the Palestinian people and their just struggle for freedom," added Arar. The massacre in Jerusalem, he

noted, exposed to the whole world the imperialistic image of the United States and its Western

He called for an open war against the Americans who support the Israelis and urged the Arabs and Muslims to support Iraq in its "battle of destiny" mies of the nation.

Aid from Singapore, Brunei — an

example of South-South cooperation



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassen Thursday receives at the Royal Court twn French parliamentarians (Petra photo)

French envoys stress need for a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis

By Serene Halasa Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - A French delegation consisting of Jean Francois Deniau, the deputy chairman of the French parliament Commission of Foreign Affairs, and Michel Beregovoy, the secretary of the commission, Saturday ends a four-day visit to

The delegation, that arrived in Jordan Wednesday, comes as part of other similar missions carried out by the French parliament to several Arab countries to discuss the prospect of reaching a peaceful settlement to the Gulf crisis. During their visit to Jordan the delegation members were received by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and met with many Jordanian officials.

"We need to engage in a peace process. Peace is possible if we want it and say it," Deniau told a press conference held at the French ambassador's house Thursday. He also stressed on the need to avoid a costly and deadly war by saying: "People who launch the war never see its consec ences." "Every possibility that leads to peace should be explored." Beregovoy also added.

"The situation is not hopeless, what is hopeless is if we say it is," Deniau said. He also warned that if military operations start there is no way of stopping them. "I praise King Hussein's courageous way of trying to bring together the

elements of conflict," he said. Earlier Thursday the French delegation met with Crown Prince Hassan at the Royal Court to review the latest de-

velopments in the Gulf crisis and Jordan's efforts in finding a political and diplomatic solntion to the crisis. The Crown Prince also reviewed the economic difficulties Jordan encounters as a result of implementing U.N. Seenrity Council resolutions against Iraq. The meeting was also attended by the French Ambassador to Jordan Denis Rouchard.

The delegation also Thursday met with Minister of Information and Acting Foreign Minister Ibrahim Izzeddine. According to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, the two sides discussed French President Francois Mitterrand's peace initiative for the Gulf The delegation also reiter-

ated France's position on the massacre committed by the Israeli forces in Jerusalem on Oct. 8, and called for the implementation of the United Nations resolution that condemns the use of excessive force against Palestinian civilians in the occupied territor-

The minister expressed Jordan's gratitude, and said that the Jordanian government welcomed France's efforts to solve the crisis peacefully.

The delegation was also received Thursday by several members of the Lower House of Parliament. Deputies Husni Al Shayyab,

Abdullah Ensour, Abdul Latif Arabiyat and Fawzi Tu'aimeh. who met with the French delegation, emphasised during the meeting that any solution to the Gulf crisis should be solved within an Arab framework. They also affirmed that the crisis is an inter-Arah affair and that the existence of foreign troops on Arab land will only aggravate the situation and will threaten the future of the Arah region.

The deputies also voiced their concern about the American and Western military buildup in the Gulf which, they said, blocked Jordan's attempts to reach a peaceful solution. They agreed that Jer-dan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Hussein, bas tried since the beginning of the crisis to find a suitable solution, but that all efforts have gone unheeded.

The deputies said they believed that the American led military buildup in the region was solely to gain access to Arab oil and to prevent the Arabs from achieving their goals and aspirations.

The deputies also stressed the need to tackle all the region's problems, including the Lebanese and Palestinian problems, "according to the same standards and not by the double standard taking place at the present time."

The deputies also lauded the French stand on the crisis and stressed that France should step up its efforts in solving all Middle East problems.

The French delegation voiced their support for solving the region's problems peacefully, but affirmed that the Gulf crisis can only be solved if Iraq pledges to withdraw from Kuwait and release all foreign nationals in Iraq and Kuwait.

The delegation also met with the Palestinian ambassador to Jordan, Al Tayeh Abdul Rahim, who stressed the need for France to take a leading role in linking the Gulf protlem to the Palestinian one.

VTC trains 43,000 since 1977

AMMAN (Petra) — The Vocational training Corporation (VTC) has provided training to 43,000 apprentices and trainees in two-year, one-year and threemonth training courses since the establishment of the corporation by the Ministry of Labour in 1977, according to corporation director Ahmad Atwan.

The VTC had set a target of training 30,000 by the year 1990 but the availability of centres and training facilities has helped the corporation to surpass all expectations," Atwan said in a

"The apprentices are badly needed in the local market and the Arab countries where they can earn income for investment in the Kingdom," Atwan said. He noted that the VTC was trying to expand and was doing all it could to link the requirements of the country's soci-economic development with training plans.

Atwan announced that the VTC's coming five-year expansion programme entailed setting

up eight training centres for men statement Friday. and six for women, distributed in various governorates, thus opening the way for all able bodied men and women to have training

> "In addition, the VTC will benefit from the Ministry of Education's centres, set up in schools, which have been giving basic training in hotel management, services, health and agri-cultural fields," said Atwan. He said that a total of 3,320

students have joined the VTC centres for the 1990-1991 school year, but the VTC centres also offer short term training courses for many others, especially those sent by government departments and private sector companies.

needed for employment.

"Indeed the various private sector associations and companies have been cooperating with the VTC to give training to the students from various areas," Atwan said.

The VTC has made an arrangement with the Jordan Engineers Association (JEA) to train 150 engineers seeking jobs in the country, Atwan announced. He said that the arrangement took effect last month with financing for the training courses coming from the Industrial Development Blank (IDB).

The engineers, he explained, will have eight week training courses during which they are given lectures and do practical work in their own specialisations

Atwan noted that the VTC had been cooperating closely with the governments, of Canada, Austra-lia and the United Kingdom, with the World Bank and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to boost its activities and to expand its projects.

Jordan Times Staff Reporter return, the two aircraft airlifted

By Ica Wahbeh

AMMAN — With 708,961 Gulf refugees expatriated by Monday Oct. 15 and with the number of those coming in decreasing impressively, Jordan is far from feeling relieved or allowing itself to take things easily. Actually the Jordanian authorities, the United Nations agencies and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) have expressed concern that international attention on this problem is flagging and are renewing their appeal for more international assistance to tackle the problem.

Official government figures show that Jordan has so far spent ID 35,397,904 on evacuees. The 'enthusiastic" response of the international community, through the U.N. agencies, has covered JD 2,720,000 of these expenses, leaving over JD 30 million uncovered. This burden is heavy on Jordan, especially that the country's economy is severely affected by the trade embargo on

In a humanitarian gesture, more significant perhaps because it comes from a developing country with no refugees, the government of Singapore, with contribution from the government of Brunei, sent two Royal Singapore Airforce C-130 with medical and relief supplies to Jordan. On their

140 Sri Lankan nationals to Col-

The contribution consisted of 25 tonnes worth \$141,000 and was handed over to the Evacuee Welfare Committee. The supplies include rice, sugar, condensed meat, sardines, biscuits, blankets, stretchers, ground sheets and medical items. An official involved in the bumamitarian operation who preferred

of "South-South cooperation or a small contribution from a developing country to another developing country." The whole process was described by the same official as record fast and smooth." The operation, starting from Singa-pore to Amman and from here to

Colombo, with unloading, taking

anonymity, said the assistance

could be considered as a gesture

aboard people and nine hours on the ground, took about 45 hours. "We answered the appeal by the United Nations Disaster Relief Organisation (UNDRO) and came to help the people in distress. We are amazed at the speed with which things are solved by your government," the official

The airlift of the Sri Lankans, done in accordance with plans drawn up by the IOM, was executed partly because they constitute the biggest bulk of Asian and partly because Sri Lanka was on the return route of the Singa-

the evacuees, but your govern- efficiency displayed by Jordan in and people."

now as the number of refugees has dwindled," said the official. "I only want to stress our "We offered further help for admiration and respect for the added burden on your country

evacuees left in the Kingdom, ment does not find it necessary handling the whole evacuation process, and for it professing further assistance to the evecuees, even when this means an

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ Open studio and workshop for artist Santia Zara displaying lintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off paintings, sculptures and hand-painted land 3:30-6:30).
2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30). Exhibition entitled "Science in Profile" at the British Council. Exhibition of photos from the Goethe-Forest (between Taffich and Shobak) by Sigrid Newber at the Goethe Institute. Arts and crafts exhibition by Justiana Awad at the Jordan

Intercontinental Hotel. Exhibition of oil paintings by Salwa Amareen and Haifa Amareen at the Royal Cultural Centre (opens at 5:00 p.m.)

French film entitled "Romanid et Juliette" at the Royal Cultural Centre - 8:15 p.m. Italian film entitled "La foresta silenziosa" at Haya Art Centre

~ 7:30 p.m. German film entitled "Caspar David Friedrick" at the Goethe Institute — 2:20 n.m. ete — 8:00 p.m.

GRATITUDE

The "Honorary Consulate of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in Amman," wishes to convey its deep gratitude and sincere appreciation and

> His Majesty King Hussein Her Majesty Queen Noor

His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Jordanian Government

People of Jordan, the Ministry of Interior, Public Security Department, IOM, EEC, UNDRO, WFC, Red Crescent, all institutions and organisations who participated in the humanitarian operation for repatnation of the Sri Lankan evacuees who arrived from

We deeply thank the Sri Lankan community in Jordan who volunteered to extend assistance and cooperation during this crisis.

2004 300 000 mg 200 ජෝර්දුකත් ශු ලාංක முடு வேல்கை வட்டும் පක්ෂය කාල සිනම නිල අරවර රුල ආදරමයට සෝද්රුය යට අතිම ශී ලාංෂනයක් කතිතටත් ආයසු ඔවුන්ගේ ලවුණුම කළුද අද විමථ නයකය ఇట్ట్రక్ట్ ఈ మిర్జ్ క్రామ్ క్రామ్ క్రామ్ என்றைக்க வாக்க செரும் ఎడ్ ప్రార్థ లక్ష్మణంపడ్డ్ చిప్తున్నా කම් කතන් කුවල්ටත් පත්දරය والمعادية عالم والمعادية ජෝර්දන ජජයන් එහිට කපාම දංච නිලාධාරීත්වත් එක්සාර ස්ත්රේ දායකයෙන්. ප්දේශිකාර්තර විභාමන කෙරෙම්ක. వాడలన్,ట్రికెట్లాలు కాబ్యా ఇస్ట్రేస్తున్న කවුලවක් විවිධ ක්රම්ණ வேறைவடும் கூடிக்கோம் කිරින ශිල් ලිනක්කයන්ටත් බමුත්තේ සිදුමණි නාක්ෂුක-වයන් පදාවයන් දෙසින් කොස් අතත්ති දාදරමෙන් යුත්තම

مورين تاييز بوبة عربة سباسية مستقلة تصدر بالانعليزية عن الترسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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University Road, P.O. Box 6710, Amman, Jordan.

Telephones: 667171/6, 670141-4 Telex: 21497 ALRAI JO Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

Portentous silence

THE FRENCH call on the U.N. secretary general to investigate the alleged atrocities committed against followers of ousted General Michel Aoun last week is a healthy departure from the easy use of double standards that Washington and London have been practising in the Middle East and the Gulf region lately. As President George Bush and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher have raised the issue of crimes against humanity allegedly committed by Iraqi forces in Kuwait, Paris, by making its call to the U.N., is in effect saying that all such crimes committed in this area should be likewise investigated and the accused prosecuted before an international tribunal similar to the one created in the aftermath of World War II. Both London and Washington are ominously silent in the face of the French demand that the crimes against humanity in Lebanon be also investigated. As a matter of fact, both capitals are embarrassed by the recent events in Lebanon and Jerusalem and see them as undermining their arguments against Iraq. In this vein, since the issue of double standards is being put on the table and France especially is seeking to rectify the justified fear that hypocrisy dominates Washington's and London's posture in the Gulf and Middle East regions, it would be only fair to also argue with the call by London and Washington for financial and economic reparations against Baghdad, It will be recalled that President Bush and Prime Minister Thatcher have recently spearheaded an effort through the U.N. Security Council to demand damages and reparations from Iraq allegedly connected with its invasion of Kuwait. Not it is the Arab turn to resort to such precedents being established by Bush and Thatcher to call on the Security Council to demand reparations from Israel for its twenty-three-old occupation of the West Bank and Gaza Strip including East Jerusalem and to afford individuals affected by the occupation to demand compensations for any damages that they may have sustained from it.

We would like to hear the reaction of Washington and London to the demand for equal treatment by the two great democracies which have made it their preoccupation to fight for morality and justice in this part of the world. Secondly, even if Britain and the U.S. have decided to drop their call for the establishment of a Nuremberg type of international tribunal to prosecute the Iraqi president and his assistants and officers for their actions in Kuwait, the Arab side should pick up where these two countries have left off and insist that such an international tribunal be created as a all crimes against humanity and war crimes that may have been committed in the Middle East and Gulf regions. To be sure, every area of the world should be accorded such a tribunal in order to ensure fairness and objectivity in trying to achieve the noble aims of buman rights.

But as the crisis drags on, it becomes more apparent who and why is standing obstacle to making progress on solving all outstanding problems in this region. The French president is certainly not one of them. Nor can Mr. Gorbachev be counted in this category. It has to be the other two most important leaders of the West.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

Washington, which forced the U.N. Security Council to adopt sanctions against Iraq for its takeover of Kuwait on Aug. 2, is saying nothing against Israel's refusal to allow a council mission to visit the occupied Arab territoria; in investigate the killing of Arab citizens at Al Aqsa Mosque earlier this month, said Al Ra'l Arabic daily. The United States, like all other nations, realises that the council passed a resolution considering null and void Israel's annexation of Arab Jerusalem which is part of the occupied West Bank, but it is doing nothing in the face of Israel's claim that the city is part of Israel, the paper noted. Not only did Israel defy U.N. Security Council Resolution 672, but, it also reaffirmed its determination through its deputy foreign minister Wednesday that nn U.N. missinn will be allowed to conduct an inquiry, continued Al Ra'i. It said that once again the world is witnessing a double standard being exercised by the Security Council which is nbviously acting under orders from Washington, and it will be a severe blow for the United Nations organisation should Israel be allowed to carry on with atrocities without anyone trying to put an end to its crimes. The Arab countries, said the paper, are invited to take unified action against the United States. Israel's ally, which continues to help the Jewish state to consolidate its hold over Arab territory in defiance of the world community and the Council's resolutions.

A columnist in Ra'i daily calls on the Arab organisations, groups and charitable institutions to break the embargo imposed on the Iragi people and to find ways of delivering food supplies and milk to the Iraqi children. Abdul Rahim Omar says that the Arab people should not wait for the Iraqi children, men and women to die of starvation, and must act now if they want to see the missinn of fnreign forces in the Arabian peninsula fail. We want to evict the foreign forces from Arab land by any possible means; and one way to do that is to abort their plans to tighten the noose around Iraq's neck, says the writer. He notes that Algeria, Libya and nther Arah states have openly announced their determination to back Iraq in its quest to fend off aggression and foil attempts to starve the Iraqi people. Well, now is the time to prove such intentions and to declare our determination to open fire on all the invaders should they start a war against Iraq, the writer says. Omar says that the colonial powers seem now intent on tightening the economie sanctions on Iraq as a means of forcing that country to bow to their will, and they do not want to launch a war which will no doubt leave its devastating consequences on their own interests. He calls for action now to help the Iraqis resist the pressure and to provide badly needed food supplies to the Iraqi

Christian Arabs: a long history of heroism

By Ibrahim Ajlouni

ONE century before the advent of Islam, the Christian tribe of Taghleb in the Arabian peninsula succeeded in cooperation with a number of other tribes in defeating the Persian forces at the battle of "Thi Qar". That victorious day was later hailed by Prophet Mohammad as marking the first Arab victory over the Per-

In the Al Qadisieh battle in modern-day Iraq, Christian horsemen of Taghleb played a decisive role marking a big success for the Islamic con-

quest. The Christian tribes of the Arabian peninsula also fought side by side with the Muslim warriors in Bilad Al Shaam (Greater Syria).

One can name a long list of

prominent Christians in Arab history like Hatem Al Ta'i, the most famous Arab characterised with generosity; Hunin Ibn Ishaq, who was the most famous translatur in the Islamic period; and Issa Al Awwam, the close friend of Salladdin who died in the battle trying to end the foreign siege on Acre during the wars of the Middle Ages called by the West not the Arabs the

In modern times the name of Jol Jamal the Syrian pilot who flew his fighter plane into a French destroyer during the tripartite aggression on Egypt in 1956 is one that Arabs recall with pride.

This is not the right place nor time to publish a bibliography of Arab Christians' contributions to the Islamic nation. Many of these contributinns appeared in books by famous scholars. I just want to mention these facts as a prelude to a subject considered most dangerous: the question

of non-Islamic communities in

an Islamic society.
This subject has been shrouded with mystery and poor knowledge on the part of hostile elements trying to draw a wedge among Arab ranks.
The Arabs have just become

familiar with the term minority, a term used by the enemies of the Arabs to identify the Christian Arabs who inhabit the land of their fathers and grandfathers among their Muslim brothers with whom they worked hard to build Arab and

Islamic glory.

I do challenge anybody to bring forth any argument or evidence that can prove otherwise. The Christian Arabs are by no means minorities. They have never been so at any time

Arab Christians have always been an integral part of their great Arab Nation. They have always identified with their Muslim brothers and together they formulated Islamic culture and identity.

The belief that Christian people form an integral part of the Arab and Islamic nations should be settled once and for all and should not be left open to discussion by the ignorant or

sinister people who can unwittingly do damage to themselves and to their nation. The Holy Koran has clearly ruled that the Christians are the closest people to the Muslims. Christians have fallen martyrs along with their Muslim brothers in defence of their faith in God and are spiritually close to the Muslims, forming with them a single Arab Nation.

The writer is the editor of the literary pages of Al Ra'i Arabic daily. He is a student of philosophy and a confessed Islamist. The article appeared in Al Ra'i on Thursday.

U.S. Congress pushing for role with Bush in war-making

By Carol Giacomo

Reuter WASHINGTON - President George Bush has so far been the moving force behind U.S. Gulf strategy but now Congress is

demanding a role.

Capital Hill and the White House have often been at odds over war-making powers hut the stakes are higher now than at any time since the 1970s. With more than 200,000 troops deployed in the Gulf region, the United States stands to suffer huge casualties if fighting erupts there.

So far, the Bush administration has sent mixed signals on the likelihood of military action to force Iraqi troops out of

Congress, which recesses next week until Jan. 3, fears that a military decision will be taken during that period.

Richard Lugar, a respected member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, signalled the depth of this worry on Oct. 17 when Secretary nf State James Baker testified tn the committee The Indiana Republican said

it was his "gut reaction that sometime between the time that we recess... and the time a new Congress has sworn in... there is likely to be military activity in that area and that is

an ominous prospect."

One after another, committee members insisted that the administration - if it is to maintain broad popular support for its policy - must seek congressional approval before undertaking any specific milit-

ary action against Iraq. While most of the panel seemed resigned to using force against Iraq, some urged restraint and others stressed the need to act as much as possible under United Natious au-

"I feel very strongly, absent some severe provocation, that it would be a tragic mistake of lasting proportions if we

started the shooting," said Democratie Senator Terry Sanford.

Congress has been slow to assert its prerogative in this instance. Lawmakers have generally been supportive of Bush's handling of the Gulf crisis.

But with the prospect of war looming and November elections bringing lawmakers into close touch with voters, they seemed eager to make their

"There ought to be a formal commitment of the American people to share that (warmaking) responsibility with President Bush and with yourwill be massive, and it must be successful," Lugar told Baker. Congress should be called back into session to vote a formal declaration of war if military action is needed, key

self, because the undertaking

lawmakers said. This lies at the heart of one of the most fundamental conflicts between Congress and the White House in recent

The U.S constitution says Congress declares war but it makes the president comman-der in chief of the armed

The couflict was starkly drawn during the Vietnam

war, which the United States lost after 55,000 Americans were killed. Once troops were committed by successive presidents, Congress debated for years whether they should be withdrawn.

In 1973, Congress passed the War Powers Act in an effort to outline more clearly the responsibilities in time of combat but this has only inflamed the debate.

In principle, presidents are loathe to share their command. of American forces and foreign policy with Congress whose 535 members are accountable through elections to often vastly diverse constituencies.

command worries officials in Gulf Lack of central

Ey Eric Hall

DUBAI - Admirals and generals of the multi-national force in the Gulf are working hard at wish but without ministers' policoordination - the soft alterna- tical backing they can make no tive to central command. For a naval blockade and static

defence it will suffice, defence be too late," said de Hoop Schefofficials say, but for a war against fer, who visited the region to Iraq it may not be good enough. The United States and its allies should muster the political will now to decide who will be in charge if the shooting starts, the 200,000 soldiers, 800 planes, 50 officials argue.

What we need are ministers to vehicles - dwarf other contin-

A CANADA CONTRACTOR CO

get together and decide," European defence official Jaap de Hoop Scheffer told Reuters.

'You can have commanders meeting together as lnng as you real decisions. "If we don't do it now, it might

report on the problem for the defence committee of the Western European Uninn (WEU), U.S. forces in the region ships, 1,000 armoured fighting

contemplate independent military action against Iraq.

The Gulf alliance also includes almost 50 European warships, French, British, and Egyptian armoured units, and the large Saudi army.

They would double U.S. striking power if they could be coordinated under a central command, officials said.

The Gulf crisis has helped reinvigorate the Paris-based WEU, formed in 1948 but overshadowed by the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation throughout the East-West confrontation in

joint security alliance empowered to operate outside Western Europe.

"So far, it has proved impossible to define common rules of engagement which are normally the basis for military coordination, and it may take some time before it is realised how vital the subject

will be," said de Hoop Scheffer. One answer, favoured by the Soviet Union, would be a central United Nations (U.N.) command, which could be politically acceptable to coutnies that oppose Iraq's invasion of Kuwait but do not want to join a military

But U.S. Secretary of State idea of a U.N. commander and

The reluctance of countries to ture and size of forces sent.

Britain decided to send an

effort against it under U.S. con- said it was the smallest unit capable of independent action.

The U.S. navy's regional com-James Baker said on Oct. 17 that mander, Admiral Henry Mauz, while there were ways to involve told reporters this week that his the United Nations, Washington officers had regular working might have problems with the meetings with officers of the Canadian, Australian, and 10 watned to reserve the option for Western European navies now in the region.

He said he was sure that any of give up national command has the alliance's ships would support also been reflected in the struc- each other in the event of shoot-

But, he added, each would armoured brigade, which is due have to respond within the conto arrive in Saudi Arabia soon, text of their own government's text of their own government's because British defence officials political positions on the crisis.

Soviets seek Gulf peace solution

(Continued from page 1)

to retain Bubiyan Island, access to the Gulf and "things like that." Bubiyan is an uninhabited island off Kuwait that controls

military port on the Gulf. Primakov's meeting with Bush marked the completion of a round of diplomatic consultations for the Soviet official, who travelled to Washington after Gulf crisis talks with Italian and. French leaders in Rome and

Earlier Friday, Bush publicly rejected a partial solution to the Gulf crisis, saying the United States will "stay the course" until Iraq's takeover of Kuwait is re-

"I am as determined as I was when the first troops left (for Saudi Arabia) that Saddam Hussein's aggression not be rewarded by some compomise, not be rewarded by failing to get him totally nut of Kuwait and restoring the legitimate rulers," he said.

Bush was speaking to Italian-

American leaders. At a photo session with the president before the start of the meeting, Primakov said he was not carrying a message from the Iraqi leader. "Nn message from Saddam Hussein, because I am not a messenger," Primakov told reporters.

At the news conference after his talks with Bush, Primakov said Moscow and Washington remained united in insisting that Iraq comply with U.N. resolutions and withdraw from Kuwait. Baker told the House Foreign

Affairs Committee Thursday be thought Arab states would join a U.S. military attack on Iraq if a decision was made to go to war.

"That is my view," be said when asked if Arab states such as

the Gulf to drive Iraq from But Baker said be still boped

Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia

would support the use of force in

for a peaceful solution. Baker said he believed some European trations would also support the use of force in the Gulf. Baker said the United States had already begun informal consultation at the United Nations about a resolution authorising the use of force and had been surprised at the positive response.

"We have had some informal

discussions with members of the

international coalition... about

whether or not they might or might not support some sort of a resolution in the United Nations that would support the use of force," Baker said.

exist in favour of that," he added. Asked by Representative Tom Lantos, Democrat of California, whether Iraq's alleged dismantling of Kuwait did not impose a strict time limit on how long the international community could afford to wait before taking other action. Baker said he thought it

"All I said was... sanctions are beginning to be effective. We know that they're beginning to bite. With respect to their biting to the point of bringing him down... that is something that is going to take, if it happens, a substantial period of time," he said.

Baker was subjected tn a blistering attack from Representative Stephen Solarz, Democrat of New York, on his failure to anticipate and seek to deter the

"I have to say that prior to the inception of this crisis, you and your associates in the administration handled the potential challenge of Saddam Hussein miserably," Solarz said.

Baker, who rebuffed several other attacks by members objecting to what they saw as his anti-Israel policy, offered no response to the charge made by Solarz.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar Thursday was quoted as saying military action igainst Iraq would be justified if the Security Council sees no other solution to the Gulf crisis.

The U.N. Charter's Article 42 permits military action. Should the Security Council come to that decision, that would be completely legal," the magazine Der Spiegel quoted the U.N. chief as saying.

He said was up to the Security Council to decide whether military action is needed or to wait and see whether the embargo against Iraq eventually forces it to leave Kuwait, Der Spiegel re-

"It (the Security Council) can't strengthen the embargo and sanctions against Iraq, because everything possible has already been done." he was quoted as saying in an interview in New York.

The U.N. chief reportedly said. "At the moment I see little moveful solution." He added, however, "I will

never be the first one to say there

remains only a military solution the resolution has been sche-"I was struck, frankly, by the of the conflict," Dr Spiegel re-duled. France and the Soviet Union said Thursday sanctions against Iraq should be given more time to

take effect and a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis could still French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, who met his Soviet counterpart Shevardnadze at a hastly-arranged meeting in Vienna, said Paris and Moscow agreed that the international embargo

against Iraq needed more time. "We affirm that the embargn remains the only possible way and that it is necessary to wait for some time more to gauge its effects," Dumas told reporters in Vienna after meetings with She- ly and Spain support the use of vardnadze and Austrian Foreign -Minister Alois Mock.

"Both of us hope that these effects will make themselves felt in such a way that the Iraqi authorities will change their attitude and as a consequence there remains the possibility of a peaceful solution — a peaceful and political solutions.

Shevardnadze told Mock that Moscow insisted on Iraq's withdrawal from Kuwait and did not accept any linkage between the Gulf crisis and a wider Middle East settlement.

Speaking to reporters on arrival. Shevardnadze said he bad no "ready-made concept" for solv-

"It is difficult to talk about new ideas, I have not brought a readymade concept with me. I don't believe anyone has such a concept," he told questioners. Washington is pushing a new

Security Council resolution that

threatens Iraq with increased sanctious if it does not stop "murdering, mistreating and oppressing" Kuwaitis and free all foreigners. The resolution threatens Baghdad with "further enforcement measures" under Chapter 7 of the

U.N. Charter if it does not obey the resolution. However, the document, which was obtained by the Associated Press, does not specify what measures might be

Chapter 7 allows punitive ac-tion up to, and including, collective use of military force. "It's one we hope will pass

quickly," a U.S. State Depart-

ment in the direction of a peace- ment official said of the resolution. He declined to be further No formal council meeting on

> Council members have reached broad agreement on the resolution, which also lays the groundwork for a system of compensa-

for damages resulting from its invasion of Kuwait, diplomats The British, French, Soviet, Chinese and U.S. ambassadors continued meeting Thursday to refine the language of the resolution, while their governments studied its legal ramifications. More

tion under which Iraq would pay

discussions were expected Friday. In other Gulf developments: Seventy per cent of people in Britain, Germany, France, Itamilitary force to make Iraq withdraw from Kuwait, according to a

poll published Thursday. Sixty-nine per cent approve of Bush's decision to send armed forces to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, researchers from Gallup, a leading British poll company, found.

Britons are the most "hawkish" of the Europeans: 86 per cent back military action and 80 per cent support Bush's action, according to the poll. In a corresponding U.S. poll.

70 per cent of Americans said they supported Bush's decision to move troops into the Gulf. Gallup questioned 500 people m each of the five countries for the poll, commissioned by the London-based Association for

Free Kuwait. The margin of error

is five per cent. - Japan said Friday it would be sending computers, televisions and water trucks to assist the multinational forces in the Gulf region, as the parliament continued to debate whether any soldiers can be sent abroad.

Japan already has sent hundreds of four-wheel-drive vehicles to Saudi Arabia as part of its commitment to offer \$2 billion in aid to the multinational forces arrayed against Iraq.

crisis and the U.N.-ordered trade embargo against Iraq. - Millions of chemical gas masks are on their way to Saudi Arabia, a civil defence official

Takyo also has promised to provide \$2 billion in aid to Middle Eastern states hurt by the Gulf

said in remarks published in the much time left."

unilateral attack.

newspaper Al Riyadh Thursday.

"A large number of masks esti-

mated at millions is expected in

the kingdom to protect nationals

and residents should civilian

targets be subjected to chemic-

told the paper. He said the first consignment

of about three million masks was

from the Gulf without achieving

their aims the entire Arab World

will radicalise and an Arab-Israeli

war will become more likely,

former Secretary of State Henry

He said in a speech he expected

the Gulf crisis to be resolved by

May because of the region's vola-

tility and the unsustainable ex-

U.S. troop deployment there.

radical and an Arab-Israeli war

will become immensely more

probable," Kissinger said in re-

marks after his speech to a bank-

of Kuwait said Iraq is prepared to

Cancelling the pilgrimage

that it would provoke an explo-

sion of unforeseeable consequ-

absolutely be solved before then.

As you can see, we have not got

"The Gulf crisis must therefore

ences," Andreotti said.

A relative of the exiled ruler

ers' association in Chicago.

forced to withdraw.

"If U.S. troops withdraw with-

Kissinger said Thursday.

- If U.S. troops withdraw

on its way to the market.

U.N. ponders

(Continued from page 1)

cooperation. Western countries, especially the United States, want the council to refocus on Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and not to be diverted further by the Arab-Israeli con-

A U.S. congressional committee passed a resolution aimed at separating the Gulf crisis from

the Arab-Israeli conflict. The resolution, which only expresses congressional opinion and has no force of law, arose out of concern over what some members of Congress perceive as U.S. efforts to keep Arab states in the coalition against Iraq by conde-

mning Israel. The measure passed Thursday on a voice vote and was sent to the full House of Representatives for further action.

pense of maintaining the huge Committee concern over treatment of Israel was heightened by out achieving their aims... we will a message Secretary of State see all the Gulf states, within a James Baker sent to Israeli Foremeasurable period of time, turn ign Minister David Levy. The Oct. 15 message said that

> Palestinians might "unjustly and unfairly" be compared by others to actions by Iraq. Several committee members expressed outrage at the secret-

Israel's deadly suppression of

blow up oil fields and other key ary's message. Baker told the committee it installations throughout Kuwait if its troops are forced to withdraw. was a personal message never Sheikh Mishal Mohammad Al meant to be made public, ex-Sabah was quoted by the Amsterpressing his sincere concern in dam newspaper De Telegraaf as Levy, whom he described as a saying that Iraq will "wipe good friend. The Israeli govern-ment leaked contents of the mes-(Kuwait) off the map" if it is

Sabah told the newspaper that Passage of the resolution on a the Iraqis had planted explosives voice vote by the House Foreign that could be detonated by re-Affairs committee came after mote control at oil drilling sites, Baker denied that he was linking fuel storage tanks, bridges and the two issues in an effort to other sites.

— Italian Prime Minister appease Arab backers of U.S. policies in the Gulf. Giulio Andreotti said the Gulf

Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak crisis must be resolved before next June's annual pilgrimage to Shamir has stepped up a verbal the Holy City of Mecca.
"It is unthinkable that it should barrage against the United States, accusing it of humiliating go ahead if the holy places are and endangering Israel to maintain the front against Iraq. involved in military operations," he said in an interview published "The driving force in the Mid-Friday in the Rome daily La die East committed a grave mis-

Repubblica. "It is equally untake by trying to buy unity at the thinkable that it should be cancelexpense of humiliating and endangering the state of Israel," Shamir told a farmers' meeting would cause tension to rise in the outside Tel Aviv. Muslim world "to such a point

"We do not want a fight with the United States... but in my opinion, Israel cannot under any circumstances sign with its own hands a humiliating verdict surrendering its sovereignty over Jerusalem," Shamir said, referring to the resolution.

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"I have never seen representatives of the American Jewish community as incensed and outraged by reactions of the United States in the Security Council." said Seymour D. Reich, chairman of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Orga-

"In effect, our community was sending a message to 1600 Pennsvivania Aveoue (the White House) that Israel was treated unfairly and a double standard was used," Reich told a news conference after Thomas R. Pickering, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, addressed a meeting of Jewish representatives. Reich was joined by Malcolm Hoenlein, executive direc-

hail of police gunfire on Oct. 8 after Israeli forces fired on protesters throwing stones in occu-

pied Jerusalem.

Last Friday, the Security Council condemned Israel's forces over the incident. It called for a U.N. investigation into the deaths.

Pickering, under a barrage of angry questions, told the audience, "Israel does not get a fair shake in the Security Council," according to one participant who took notes.

Reporters were not admitted to the session, but members of the audience disclosed details of the

Reich said the Pickering at first asserted that the action of the United States, which frequently backs and shields Israel from harsh resolutions, was based only on its concern for holy sites and its concern for the use of live

Hrawi sets deadline

(Continued from page 1) parties would also replace the

Most of the armed groups were Iraq, Syria, Israel and Iran.

state of war to peace." "We are in the process of reuniting the country," declared Hrawi, whose troops and Syrian allies drove Aoun from his stronghold in the Christian enclave with a ground assault that

"The oext step would be disbanding militias, extending the overnment's authority over all

army," Hrawi said. Thousands of young Lebanese bear arms in irregular forces which have fought both an overall civil war and small wars within.

the religious communities. The U.S.-trained 30,000-strong regular army spent much of the

var on the sideline Aoun, gained political power in

the Christian enclave two years

mounce in a few days the dissolution of their militias.

last year to end civil war. Initially all the militia, includ-

ing the hardlioe Christian Lebanese Forces (LF) and the pro-Iranian Hizbollah, pledged to

Israel which occupies a strip there, patrolled by some 1,000

Palestinians barred from Aqsa

(Continued from page 1)

were blocked from cotering the Lion's Gate to Jerusalem's Old City near the Haram Al Sharif complex which houses Al Aqsa and Dome of the Rock mosques.

For the past two weeks, police have barred residents of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip from attending the services. This Friday they also turned away all men from Jerusalem who were under age 45. As a result, fewer than 2,000

Muslims were at the service. On a normal Friday before the 34-month Palestinian uprising, more than 10,000 Muslims would pray at Al Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock mosques.

Also Friday, a Jerusalem magistrate's court ordered two prominent Palestinians kept in ail while police continue an investigation into whether they "in-

cited" the Oct. 8 violence. Faisal Husseini, the leading activist in the occupied territorics, was ordered held seven more days, and Sheikh Mohammad Jamal, deputy Muslim leader of Jerusalem, was remanded for five additional days. Both deny the

allegations. In the occupied territories. Muslims also were blocked from attending Friday prayers by army curiews in many areas.
Curiews kept 145,000 people in

their homes in Nablus, the West

Yunis, hundreds of Palestinians marched out of mosques and paraded with Palestinian flags shooting "Our blood for Al

Agsa. Reports said soldiers fired teargas and rubber bullets to disperse the demonstration. Hospital officials said 30 people were treated for minor injuries or tear-gas inhalation.

On Thursday, Israeli troops shot and wounded more than 50 Palestinians with live bullets and rubber pellets in seven hours of clashes sparked by army efforts to set up a new post in a Gaza Strip refugee camp, a U.N. official

Residents of the Gaza's Rafah camp said the incident began when soldiers raised an Israeli flag on a rooftop in the centre of the camp.

Scores of teenagers began throwing stones, and at least eight military jeeps full of soldiers ere sent to try to restore order. the residents told reporters.

"The entire camp was in tur-moil for seven hours," one said. An official of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency in the camp nian casualties: 33 hit by live ammunition, 25 with rubber bullets, 30 suffering from tear-gas inhalation and 20 treat for beating injuries. He asked not to be

Arab hospitals said 35 Palestinians were admitted with bullet wounds, including 33 from live

Saudis step up pressure

(Continued from page 1) preferred not to call at Aqaba because of the "hastle of having them inspected" by the American and other ships patrolling the Red Sea in a bid to enforce the blockade on Iraq and to avoid paying the high war risk insurance, Kawar

He explained that ships which carry what the chief of the American fleet patrolling the mouth of the Gulf of Agaba determines to be "suspect goods" are turned back and allowed in only if the "suspect goods" are unloaded at other ports. This problem, in addition to the 0.25 per cent hull insurance, has led to many shipping lines to resort to transhipment of goods for Aqaba and thus the pile-up at

Jeddah. "A shipment of harmless chemicals used in the manufacture of soaps was diverted," Kawar said. "By the time we get the chemicals to Acaba, the buyer will be paying higher amounts, and this is definitely going to be translated into higher production costs and hence higher prices for the

consumer," be noted.

Several Jordanian industries are running low on raw materials and if the situation is permitted to continue, it will result in "a very serious situation for our manufacturing sector," said an official at the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Kawar said the Saudi citstoms authorities "are deliberately delaying the clearance process by ignoring our repe-ated requests." Other shipping officials said at least two vessels sent by Jordanian shipping agents to Jeddah to pick up the

(Continued from page I)

containers were furned back by the Sandis, who said the containers had to be "cleared after inspection by the Saudi customs department.

"If indeed such inspection is involved, what then is stopping them from doing it and getting it over with?" asked one of the

officials. "We are planning a test case by sending 70 containers to Jeddah in the next two weeks and we will see how it goes with the Saudis," Kawar said.

In the meantime, contacts with insurance underwriters and shipping circles in Europe have brought about a reduc-tion in the hull insurance on Anaba-bound ships to 0.15 per cent and then to 0.1 per cent from 0.25 per cent, Kawar said. "I have been informed by Lloyds of London that this has gone into effect as of Oct. 18." he said. "This is the first step, and we hope we can achieve further progress in regularising the flow of goods to Aqaba,'

Bur be concedes that it is going to be an uphill task,
"What the Western world appears to be deliberately doing their best to implement the

overlooking is the fact that Jordan is strictly adhering to the international sanctions against lraq," Kawar said.
"For us, shipping agents, it has become a way of life that no goods bound for Iraq and originating in Iraq are handled through Aqaba, and we have accepted ir," he said. "It seems that the West does not want to acknowledge this, and whatever we are trying to do to ensure Jordan-bound goods, strictly for consumption in Jordan, reach us is being thwarted by pressure from all sides," he

U.N. envoy reports on Jordan

(Continued from page 1)

Jordanain government when it tells us it is going to observe the sanctions."

'We see substantial evidence of major efforts" by Jordan "to observe the sanctions," despite its "very difficult circumstances," he added.

Ripert said much of the trucks seen on the road to the Iraqi border are not sanction-busters, but are Jordanian refugees from Irag and Kuwait who are having their household good shipped back to them in Jordan.

Iraqi trucks cannot cross the border, said Ripert, so the Jordanians have been sending trucks there to receive the furniture and other bousehold goods.

About 100,000 to 120,000 Jordanian workers fled Iraq and Kuwait with their families after the invasion, he said.

Ripert said Prime Minister Mudar Badran promised that more border control points will be set up, and he said the officials all seemed determined to obey the economic embargo.

"I come back with no doubt that the authorities in Jordan are resolution," said Ripert. Ripert said it was absolutely essectial that other countries come to Jordan's aid to prevent

its economic collapse. Although the council already has asked nations to provide Jordan with urgent technical, financial and other assistance, Ripert said there had been a lot of

pledges but little aid. "Jordan has not taken any decision (on the oil question)," be said. "Its decision will depend on what the rest of the world will

Some diplomats on the Security Council's Sanctions Committee have said privately that unless Jordao completely obeys the U.N. embargo, approved in Re-solution 661 on Aug. 6, it does not qualify for any special relief

The port of Agaba, which used to serve as a major port for Baghdad, has been idled by the embargo, and most of the truck drivers who used to carry supplies from Aqaba to Baghdad are out of work.

Tourism has vanished, said Ripert, and the idling of the port means Jordan has trouble exporting any of its fruits and veget-

PLO is the sole and legitimate

representative of the Palestinian

people at a time when we find

those who turn down its re-

quest?" Qasem said, Referring to

the Security Council Resolution

League condemns

(Continued from page 1)

United States, proposed the resolution condemning Washington for supporting Israel at the U.N. Security Council and accusing it of double standards.

The PLO draft expressed "deounciacion of the U.S. governmeot's procrastination and evasiveness during the U.N. Security Council debate (oo the killings), affirming American bias towards Israel's policy of repression and terror," sources said.

The PLO draft also called for an end to double standards in dealing with international legality and the need for harmony in implementing its (the U.N.) charters oo equal basis everywhere and at all times."

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem who represented Jordan said that the Security Council resolutions were short of deterring Israeli aggression, because of America's indifference over the Israeli practices in the occupied territories.

Qasem stressed that rejection of the PLO's draft "reflects the weakening Arah position towards all what the whole Arab Nation has agreed opon." He noted that the defeat of the PLO draft resolution "conflicts with the Arab consensus that the PLO is the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

672 Qasem said "We, as mem-bers of the Non-Aligned Movement, should not have let a scope for an alternative resolution. We were hoping to have the resolotion vetoed rather than have such a shahby resolution that leads to further split." He added that the American procrastination at the Security Council made the resolution void

of its content." Qasem pointed ont that Jordan fully supports the PLO request for coovening the Security Council to force Israel to accept Re-

solotico 672 and to implement it. Iraqi Foreign Minister Tareq Aziz said "the Zionist entity would not have been able to survive in our regioo had it not been for the political and economic support of the major im-

perialist forces." Aziz stressed the need for crys tallising a pan-Arab position at the current stage which the Arab Nation is facing saying that it is Arab World has witnessed.

Aziz expressed appreciation of former Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi who resigned from his post as a result of the developments in the regioo.

Iraq announces fuel rationing

(Continued from page 1)

sign of serious shortages in the

owners of all petrol driven cars

from Saturday. Baghdad newspapers published attack."

ters set up all over Iraq's 18 Gulf crisis ended.

4 Rent & Sale

Many villas and apartments are available for rent and

sale - furnished or unfur

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Kuwait which Baghdad annexed pondeots say there is no outward and declared its 19th province after the invasion. It urged Iraqis to "cooperate

Chalahi said petrol quotas with us in applying the rationing would be set at the weekeod and system to guarantee the acquiring ratioo conpons distributed to of petrol and lobricating oil regwhile it faces a savage imperialist

the oil ministry announcement without giving any reasons for the rationing.

Rationing was announced the day after Iraq tried to woo oil buyers by offering cheap crude at \$21 a barrel. It promised not to

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would be open" for militiamen who want to join the regular Lebanese armed forces. Political armed militias, they added.

Dissolving the militias, which ruled the streets of Lebanon through 15 years of war and tore the country to pieces, remains the chief goal of the government. Previous attempts and agreements have failed.

backed, trained and financed by Hrawi Thursday pledged to dishand the private armies, saving: "Lebanon has moved from the

killed more than 700 people and wounded 1.500.

Lebanon, and rehabilitating the

Officials feared intervention would only weaken and disrupt the force - as eventually happened wheo its commander,

Hrawi's agriculture minister, Mohsen Dalloul, said the country's rival warlords would

This is one of the key points of an Arab-brokered peace plan reached in the Saudi city of Taif

abide by the accord. Dalloul said any militiamen who wish to hold a rifle" can go to southern Lebanon and fight

"We will oot allow a single rifle to remain except the rifle that is held by the army," Dalloul said

Thursday. Fraoce, loog ao ally of Lebanese Christians, has asked the United Nations to investigate reports of "executions and atrocities" committed by Syrian troops

in Saturday's assault. Lebanese sources said Syrian troops killed dozens of Christian army captives in reprisal for

heavy losses. Pro-Syrian militia sources say the principal massacre took place at Dahr Al Wahsh where Aoun's troops pretended to surrender, then opened fire wheo the Sy-

rians came into the open. Syrian and Lebanese troops weot ahead with destroying 'green line" fortifications that divided Beirut into east and west Beirut since early in the war.

French opposition leaders demanded a tougher government response to the reported mas-France announced late Thurs day that it had asked U.N.

Secretary General Javier Perez

de Cuellar to investigate the

allegations immediately. But cen-

trist and conservative leaders said

the Socialist government had not gone far enough Alain Juppe, secretary-general of the conservative Rally for the Republic Party, said the governmeot shoold demand an emergency session of the Security

Council in order to force the withdrawal of Syrian troops from Lebanon. "The revelation of these vile massacres in receot days causes horror and indignatioo," Juppe

said. "It would be unthinkable if France, linked by so many ties to Lebanoo, remains inactive." The foreign ministry's spokes-man, Daniel Bernard, said the government had not confirmed press reports that 100 of Aoun's

soldiers were summarily executed hy Syrian and Lebanese troops. "We doo't have definitive informatioo on the subject," Bernard said, adding that enough was known already to justify the request that Perez de Cuellar

seeks more information. Several French correspondents in Beirut have reported that many of Aoun's soldiers were shot in the head, apparently while their hands were tied.

Bank's largest city, and in nearby refuece camps. In the Gaza Strip town of Khan

Legislature okays Gorbachev plan

(Continued from page 1)

Yeltsin was not present. The speech received only five seconds of lukewarm applause.

Soviet people and lawmakers at all levels of government to small private businesses would be approve his plan immediately. 'I want to call oo the Sopreme

Soviet of the USSR Russian Supreme Soviet, all Soviet people and the highest organs of power of other republics to take the only rational course of action justified," Gorbachev said. Some parts of Gorbachev's plao will require legislative

spring, to unilaterally impose economy. Gorbachev acknowledged that farms into private plots. some people were asking whether the transition to a market eco-

oomy was a departure from socialism. "We are striving not through declarations but in reality to strengthen socialism" by max-

imising people's potential, be Gorbachev's plan, distributed to parliameotary committees Tuesday, would transform the moribund Soviet economy in four stages. It sets no deadline for the switch, but says other countries

have achieved similar goals in 18 months to two years. Gorbachev has attempted to merge the more radical Russian 500-day plan - named after economist Stanislav Shatalin - with. several other proposals, including a far more conservative plan

drafted by Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov. The 66-page plan begins by cutting the budget deficit and the

production of consumer goods and boosting agricultural output. In the second stage, prices on roughly 70 per cent of all goods Gorbachev appealed to the and services would be freed to respond to market forces and

> encouraged. The third stage calls for a free market for housing, a modern haoking system and cotrepreneurship. The final stage would end government monopolies in many industries and allow the rouble to be freely traded against

other world currencies. The plan would give the ethnically and geographically diverse changes approved by the Supreme Soviet, but large sections republics more clout in running the are to be implemented by the economy. They would have the right to control most of the rerepublics. Gorbachev also has sweeping powers, valid until next -sources on their territory, override price increases approved by changes needed to overhaul the central aothorities and decide whether to break up collective

All but two republics have de clared some form of autonomy

from the Kremlin An adviser to Gorbachev said Thursday that critics like Yeltsin were needlessly croding international confidence in the Soviet Union by attacking the president's economie rescue plan.

"Every such speech robs us of several billioo dollars' worth of (foreign) loans," Abel Aganbegyan told a combined meeting of several Supreme Soviet commit-

Agaohegyan charged that 'political instability" caused by Yeltsio would force Western banks and countries to think twice about offering loans badly needed to help the Soviet Union during its transition.

The Soviet people are unlikely

to endure the inflation and unem-

ployment expected to accompany

any switch to a market economy

unless it has confidence in the

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negotiate the release of Austrian elderly and sick, and in some case hostages after visiting Saddam in those who are dying, should be Baghdad.

Heath arrives en route to Iraq

be said.

able to return home," he said. According to Heath, "no-one in Britain wants war... the U.N. does not want war." Heath, 74, paid tribute to Jor-

dan's efforts to find a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis. "Jordan is in an extraordinary position," he said. "It has been trying, from the beginning, to settle the problem peacefully, he said. "We have a great under-

standing for King Hussein." Heath announced his trip to Baghdad last week and drew criticism from Thatcher as well as other British lawmakers. His relations with Thatcher have been frosty since then, partly because his announcement was made at a Conservative Party conference and made headlines in the British press, eclipsing the conference

itself. The next day he said the Iraqi embassy called him in the middle of the night asking him to postpone the trip for a week. The government, which refuses

negotiations with Iraq, has said Heath will be offered all the "normal courtesies" from the British embassy in Baghdad.
British Muslims who secured the release of four Britons from

Iraq in an earlier mission to Baghdad have said there was a good chance Heath would persuade Saddam to free more Britons. Saddam has shown himself opeo to negotiation with high-

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Members of the government were angered by Heath last

month when be said Saddam was no Adolf Hitler and urged world leaders to make a deal with him to avoid war. Heath was reluctant to discuss

the oumber of Britons he would ask to be freed, but the Foreign Office estimated that 42 Britons were judged "sufficiently sick to warrant special atteotioo oo humanitarian grounds." Britaio has around 1,400

nationals trapped in Iraq and Kuwait, the highest oumber of any Western country. Iraq has said it will release eight Germans it holds, the Bonn Foreign Ministry announced Fri-

A ministry spokesman said the eight are on a list relayed to the Iraqi government of "humanitarian cases," in other words people who may be needing care.

He said an exact date has not been set for the release of the eight, "but the Foreign Ministry is striving for a quick exit." A day earlier Foreign Minister 'Hans-Dietrieh Genscher sum-

mooed lrag's amhassador in Bonn and demanded the release of all foreigners held in Iraq. More than 300 Germans are trapped inside Iraq, and 13 are in

A German-Arabic friendship group said the release had been secured by Dieter Schinzel, a German Social Democratic memranking officials on the foreigners ber of the European Parliament beld in Iraq. Austrian President Knrt Waldheim managed to who visited Baghdad last week.

"How do we decide that the

in September but Western corres-

Chalahi said petrol quotas

The announcement said drivers could collect coupons from cen- touch any payments until the

provinces. It made oo meotioo of

ularly to serve our dear country

nation's money supply, increasing : leader carrying out the reforms.



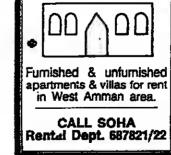












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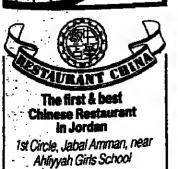


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Experts awed by chess duel as latest match ends in draw

game of the World Chess Championship ended in a draw Thursday as the duel between champion Gary Kasparov and challenger Anatoly Karpov continued to exceed the expectations of chess buffs with its daring plays.

Kasparov's whirlwind attacks, full nf fire and invention, have left observers breathless and con-

Only one person seems able to follow the full implications of the titleholder's daring play — rival Karpov, a defensive genius who occupied the game's throne himself for 10 years before being unseated by Kasparov.

The fourth game was declared a draw by the two players, without resumption of play. Karpov bad offered a draw shortly after midnight, but Kasparov spent the night trying to determine a way tn win. He decided Thursday morning he had nn chance for victory and agreed to draw.

The draw gives the champion a

RIO DE JANEIRO, Brazil (AP)

- Favourite Italy crushed Cama-

roon in three sets, and Cuha

came back from two games down

to edge Bulgaria in the opening

In a major upset, the Nether-

round of the 12th Wnrld Cham-

pionship of Men's Vnlleyball.

lands stunned the United States

in three sets, 15-7, 15-12, 15-6 in

Brasilia, the capital, to move into

champion Soviet Uninn whipped

France in three sets 15-6, 15-10,

15-6 in the southern city of Curiti-

In other action, home team

Brazil breezed past Czechoslova-

kia m three sets. Argentia swept

Canada, Sweden downed South

Meanwhile, the six-time world

first in Group B.

2½ to 1½ point lead in the new level — they're playing chess 24-game series. Kasparov has one of incredible depth," master Luis 24-game series. Kasparov has one win and the other three games were drawn.

So far, the fifth championship encounter between the two men has been a match unparalleled in the sheer ambition of the players each seems willing to risk defeat in every game.

The two Soviet grandmasters create games of such complexity that even the grandmasters of chess are shaking their heads in

During the fourth game, confusion reached such heights that grandmasters were afraid to assess the players' prospects.

To obtain a detached opinion. some experts made contact with deep thought, a mainframe computer that plays chess at master

After much mechanical cogitation the computer's verdict as 'unclear.

"They seem to have reached a

Korea, and Japan blew out Vene-

Netherlands swept to victory over

the once-mighty United States,

the defending world champion

and Olympie gold medallist in

Led by a tall front line, the

Dutch dominated the American

squad by blocking at the net and

scoring frequently with power

for first in Group D with a convincing 15-4, 15-3, 15-10 win

Italy started sluggishly, falling

behind 2-4 in the opening set.

After Italian coach Julio Velasco

called a time ont, his squad

over Camaroon in Brasilia.

Earlier. Italy moved into a tie

In a 93-minute shocker, the

zuela in straight sets.

1984 and 1988.

Busquets told Reuters.

Apart from the purely creative show the players are staging, observers revel in discussing the competitive and psychological aspects of the famous Kasparovarpov feud.

Chess players view the game as a form of mental boxing, and their terminology is surprisingly

Unable to judge the complexities of the fourth game, grandmasters resorted to gut reactions:
"These guys are trying to kill each
other." said French grandmaster Joel Lamier

Kasparov himself has dubbed ebess the "most vinlent of sports," and Spanish master and chess writer Leontxo Garcia says: "Chess is the only sport where it is possible to fight for five hours without hitting or speaking to the

"In football, for example, you

bounced back with strong block-

ing and attacking and won the set

by struggling to an 11-15, 8-15.15-

10. 15-11, 15-10 victory in Brasi-

with strong counter-attacks and

by pinning down Cuban captain

Joel Despaigne, voted the world's

best player by the International

Cuba rebounded in the third

Vnileybali Federation.

Cuba tied for the Group D lead

Bulgaria took the first two sets

in 22 minutes.

can kick the ball, release aggression — in chess it is all held in tension builds but is never re-

leased." Garcia said, adding: eback when he stopped him in the "All chess players talk about fighting, killing, when describing games. If you play chess, you Boxing Federation (IBF) midlearn quickly it is violent. dieweight title fight. At the board, it is challenger

Karpov who has been under was defending his title for the assault, fending off attacks conjured up ont of thin air. Game three was the best example. Kasparov played with the

black pieces, traditionally the defending side. After only 14 moves the cham-

pion had offered his strongest

piece in a startling bid to wrest

the initiative from Karpov. The most spectacular idea ever played at this level" said Dutch international master Gert

Karpov escaped his second defeat due to his famous defensive skills, though he still needed some unforced errors from Kas-

World Volleyball Championship opens in Brazil

Argentina revenged a defeat suffered against Canada last month in Buenos Aires, with a three-set 15-9, 15-11, 15-13 vic-

The Argentine squad compensated for a sub-par attack by setting up a number of points with strong blocking and defence to bold off a Canadian comeback

ated South Korea 15-8, 15-11, past Czechoslovakia 15-7, 15-7,

"We needed to lose two sets to

get into a rythm."

in the final set.

In other action, Sweden defe-16-17, 15-10 and Brazil romped 15-9 before a capacity crowd at Rio's Maracanazinhn Gymna-

was hitting him nearly at will,

tory that was over in less than an

Berger takes pole position for Japan Grand Prix

SUZUKA, Japan (R) - Anstrian Gerhard Berger rewrote the script for the Japanese Grand Prix Friday when he outstripped world championship rivals Alain Prost and Ayrton Senna to claim provisional pole position for Sun-

Berger, driving a McLaren, clocked the fastest time of one minute and 38.374 seconds round the 5.859-kilometres Suzuka Cir-· cuit in the final seconds of an opening qualifying session dominated by four accidents and two lengthy stoppages. No driv-

· ers were seriously mjured. Prost, in a Ferrari, was second m 1:38.684 and Senna, also in a McLaren, third fastest in 1:38.828. Briton Nigel Mansell, in the second Ferrari, was fourth

in 1:38.969. This meant the top four drivers were separated by only six-tenths of a second as the intense competition for the Drivers' Championship gripped both the leading

Frenchman Prost must win or finish second ahead of Senna Sunday to prevent the Brazilian taking bis title. The two rivals for the crown bad been expected to turn the battle for pole position

into a private duel. The bnur-long session was twice red-flagged and halted by accidents. The first occurred after 22 minutes when Belgian Bertrand Gaehnt span nff and crashed heavily into the barriers, losing the right rear wheel of his

The sessinn was delayed for 13 and a balf minutes. After the re-start there were further crashes involving Italian Ema-nuele Pirro in a Dallara, who had to be helped to walk away from his badly-damaged car, Frenchman Jean Alesi, who appeared to drive straight on in his Tyrrell

France who lost control, span and crashed heavily, ending up with his Ligier spread-eagled across

clear the wreckage.

clean the track and lay down ruhber to aid adhesion.

back from the nuter reaches of

team-mate Satoru Nakajima topping the times nntil, after

er disputed a championship nf

this level," said Cuban coach

Orlanda Samuel Blackwood.

his first set of qualifying tyres, followed by Mansell. But after Alesi's crash, which seemed to leave his car with a broken rear suspension, and Alliot's wild five minutes.

best lap and then Berger outpace them both with only seconds re-

quicker for certain tomorrow. I was certainly trying very hard. My tyres were still good even though they were the set I was using when I had to stop for Alliot's accident. It was a good

Senna said: "This morning I made a mistake on the slippery track and span off. This afternoon my car was nkay, but it

bottomed out badly at one point,

duced a new specification "Ver-

happy with Prost's luck and Mansell's misfortune. The Briton, whose brakes locked up when he screeched to a halt to avoid Alliot, said: "It was not a very nice moment, but I am grateful lap was a quick one and it was

It was a satisfactory day for the three "new boys," Roberto Moreno of Brazil, Italian Gianni Morbidelli and Briton Johny Her-

10th round of a scheduled 12round fight in an International

Nunn wins title fight

against fellow American

PARIS (Agencies) — Michael Nunn dashed fellow American catching Curry each time the challenger tried to close on him. A brave Curry managed to Donald Curry's hopes of a comwithstand Nunn's assaults until the end of the seventh round when several left and right hooks hammered in succession sent him tumbling in the ropes. He had to put a knee on the canvas to The undefeated Nunn, whn recover and was eventually saved

fifth time, ended Curry's chalby the bell. Nmm had to wait two more lenge with a flurry of blows that rounds to find another opening sent him to the canvas less than which gave him the decisive edge one minute before the end of the in front of a record attendance in Paris Palais Omnisports.

The referee ended the fight "I want to relax, to take it easy without counting a badly-shaken and enjoy my family and friends. I want to thank my mother. God, Earlier in the seventh round, it was a thrill to fight in front of Curry, a former welterweight and 15,000 fans, I had never seen super-welterweight world chamthat," Nunn said after his impioin, had to kneel nn the canvas

pressive win. to catch his breath after a series "He is the greatest mid-dleweight ever," his coach Ange-ln Dundee said. Nunn, who took of hlows by the 27-year-old title The two boxers traded heavy the IBF title from American Frank Tate in 1989, has now an blows in the opening rounds with impressive record of 36 wins, of Curry unleashing his devastating

which 27 were inside the limit. Mendoza retains WBA title

tage of his superior speed and Meanwhile Luis Mendoza of arm's length, cut his opponent's forehead in a fiercely contested Colombia retained his World Boxing Association (WBA) Curry's challenge had already junior-featherweight title Thursday with a split points verdict over France's Fabrice Benichou. waned by the fourth round. Nunn

Italy, Hungary draw in **European Championship**

BUDAPEST (Agencies) — Hungary held World Cup semifinalists Italy to a 1-1 draw in their European championship Group 3 qualifying match at the People's Stadium Wednesday.

left hook several times.

second round.

Bnt Nunn, taking full advan-

The nnfancied Hungarians dominated the first half with an attacking performance that unsettled the Italian defence and went ahead after 16 minutes when Laszlo Disztl nodded past goalkeeper Walter Zenga from a cor-

The Italians equalised with a 54th minute penalty by Roberto Baggio and were fortunate to survive a late onslaught by the Hungarians who drew 0-0 with Norway in their first tie of the group last week.

Wales beat Belgium 3-1 wmatch, 2011

In Cardiff, Wales lannched their European Championship campaign with a dramatic 3-1 victory over World Cup finalists Belgium Wednesday.

Two goals in the last eight minutes from Dean Saunders and Mark Hughes gave Wales only their fourth win in 16 games under manager Terry Yorath. But Wales had to battle from

behind in the Group 5 qualifier after the visitors took the lead in the 24th minute through Bruso Versavel.

He was given too much room 25 metres out and hammered a low shot inside the post past a static Neville Southall.

Wales levelled after only five minutes. Saunders, a constant menace to the Belgian defence, threaded a brilliant pass into Ian Rush's path and the Liverpool marksman beat goalkeeper Michel Preud' homme to the ball.

Ireland scores 5 goals against Turkey

In Dublin, John Aldridge scored three goals to lead Ireland to a 5-0 victory over Turkey Wednesday in the opening qualifying match for both teams in the Enropean Soccer Championships.

Aldridge, who bad scored just three goals in 35 previous international matebes, doubled his career total in the Group 7

David O'Leary and Niall Quinn also scored for Ireland. Hughton - a late substitute for Panl McGrath - set np Aldridge's first goal in the 15th minute, sending in a low shot that the Turkish goalie blocked. Aldridge pounced on the re-

O'Leary made it 2-0 when he sent in the rebound of a free kick by John Sheridan in the 40th minute, and he set up Aldridge's second goal minutes later.

bound for a score and 1-0 lead.

Then Aldridge set up Niali Quinn for a goal at 56 minutes, and completed the scoring with a penalty shot in the 72nd minute after a disputed hand-ball call.

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY OCTOBER 20, 1990 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Proven principals can be utilised to advantage today before Mars goes retrogade. Don't allow yourself to be distracted from your immediate goal or intended participation.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) After a blockage in gaining a quick favour the remainder of the day and evening are fine for making fine recreation plans and then you can enjoy the evening.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Avoid involvement in argument early between a family member and an outsider but later you can have a wonderful time at home with long time contact.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Don't let yourself be held down at some dull job but get into the activities at which you are most thusiastic and you get much of value done.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) Forget an expensive long-ing today and economise and you will later be able to make far better ats for purchasing a tre-

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Don't get into any moot subject at home in the morning then later you find conditions make e big chance for the better at your residence.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Discount a communication or message early you do not like and

concentrate upon thinking out a future plan where you can be much more successful.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Put aside a pressing and upset-ting business matter for the mo-ment and consider what you can do to please some good friends who are loyal to you.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Do only those things in the outside in the morning that are not subject to any type of criticism than later you will be able to increase your standing tonight.

SACITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A personal worry can keep you all stirred up if you permit it so instead get off to some new and interesting horizons and make them a part of your life. CAPRICORN: (December 22 to

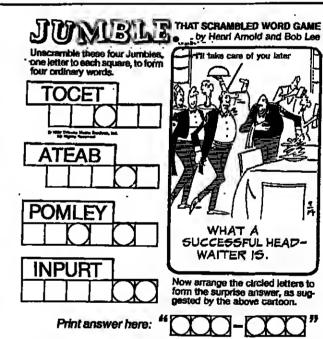
January 20) A stubborn friend can cause a problem in the morning but in the afternoon and evening you have a great chance to have a happy time with mate.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A bigwig is looking for a conflict in the morning so steer clear of that person but later a generous partner can make things easier for you.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) You are all too apt to go daydreaming in other directions when your biggest opportunity is to make real headway at your usual



trash compactor or not?"



Jumbles: FRANC LADLE DISMAL NICELY

Answer: The egocentric is seldom concerned about ideals, but always with - - - "I" DEALS

THE Daily Crossword by Don Johnson 16 "This — recording" 17 Feign refinement 18 Lawyer: abbr. 20 Flight lettere 21 Common word 22 Spooky 24 Swiss worker 28 Designate 31 Upset 32 Duplicate 33 Made out 34 Unele — 37 Extract 38 Omit a 39 Tramp 40 like's command

40 ike's command
41 king and Hal
42 Studied carefully
43 Actor Davis
44 Decorative
45 Meat dish
49 Vermicelli
50 Knockout count
51 — West
54 Groove
55 Side whiskers
60 From — Z

60 From — Z 81 Silp-up 62 Roof edging 63 Slangy asset 84 TV's Sawyer

1 — Cod 2 Adjoin 3 Actress

43 Choose 44 Doing business

57 — Is Is 58 Heavy weight 59 Bowler or

52 Copycat 53 Being: Lat. 56 Swiss cents

45 Jet 46 Terre — 47 Bar in law 48 Put away 51 Stir

9 Rural sound
10 Riled
11 Crown
12 Up and about
13 With — breath
18 Siender
23 Cease 24 Go under 25 Put through the mill

28 Summit 29 Narrow cut 30 By oneself 33 Distinctive

♣ Q J 10 3 The bidding: Fast Soetb West North Pass 2 NT Pass Pass Opening lead: Kieg of 7

have come across this hand, we are going to have to insist that they do North had a difficult rebid to

make, and two eo trump was a prac-

tical solution to a slightly offshape

hand that presented a problem be-

cause the majority of the high cards

were in the short suits. The four-

spade rebid with the South hand would never have occurred to us; three clubs would have been our first choice, with three no trump a

West led the king of hearts and declarer counted 10 tricks-five spades, four clubs and the ace of diamonds. So declarer ruffed, played off the ace-king of spades and ace-king of clubs, then came back to hand with a heart ruff to cash the queen of spades. When West discarded on this trick, declar-

er could come to no more than nine Declarer's club honors were, in fact, an optical illusion that blinded him to the best line. Had South, instead, held four low clubs, the

winning liee would have been

before spinning heavily into a tyre barrier, and Phillipe Alliot of

the middle of the circuit. This last crash bappened when Mansell had to brake heavily to avoid a further collision after passing Berger on a flying qualped for another 13 minutes to

The session was run in perfect dry and warm conditions but many drivers complained that the circuit surface was extremely slippery. This was partly due to the lack of a pre-qualifying session Friday which usually helps to

There had been several spins and minor accidents during the morning free session, including one by Senna. It cost the world championship leader nearly half an hour's lost time as be trudged

the circuit. The afternoon qualifying began with the rare sight of the two Tyrrells of Alesi and his Japanese

GOREN BRIDGE WITH OMAR SHARIJ

& TANNAH HIRSCH 1990 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

Both vulnerable. North deals. . NORTH * A K 7 J 8 6 S 2 4 5 2 T A K Q 10 ↑ Q 10 8 # 864 SOUTH ♠ Q J 10 9 6 ⊽ Void 7532

Pass We have always urged our readers to count their trieks before embarking oo a line of play. Now that we

Pass

DECEPTIVE TRICKS

Declarer had three fast tricks in the side suits. Seven trump tricks would have brought that total to 10, so the band should have been played on a crossruff. After ruffing the opening lead, declarer should have cashed the ace-king of clubs and ace of diamonds. Two heart ruffs in the closed hand would have provided the entries for two club ruffs oo the

table. Finis.

set as Despaigne returned to form, slamming several key points and setting up other win-"We're using players who nev-

Gachot's and Pirro's accidents, the McLaren and Ferrari drivers entered the fray. Senna was initially fastest on

spinning accident, all dramatic action was left packing in the final These saw Senna improve his time. Prost overhaul him with his

Berger said: "The circuit was

start to the weekend."

just as I was changing from fourth to fifth and I got a little sideways as I was giancing at the rev counter at the time. But I feel quite satisfied." The McLaren team had intro-

sion 6" Honda V-10 engine for the race and their engineers were pleased with the performance. Ferrari's garage appeared less

very dirty today and it will be the brakes worked so well. My rumed."

Moreno, replacing the injured Alessandro Nannini for Benetton

for this race, finished up 14th Mutt'n'Jeff

I'M SORRY YOU'RE SORRY! SAM,THIS HELLO! YOU GOT BUT- YOU TOLD ME
YOU TOLD ME
YOU WOULD
BE HOME IN
TEN MINUTES! GOT THE WRONG NUMBER! TILLIE? IS YOUR WIFE SIME NERVE TILLIE! WHAT ARE THIS WHAT? YOU DOING AIN'T TILLIE! OVER THEPE SO LONG HOW DID MAIN 6-2342 LISSEN TO You GET ON A GOOD MIND TO LEAVE YOU FLAT! FIRTHER MORE

Andy Capp



Peanuts



Kuwait hopes investments Dollar ends | Letters of credit dealings plunge stay intact even in war

LONDON (Agencies) — nance existing commitments Kuwait's toppled central bank totalling about \$5 billion over the governor does not expect to be forced into selling the nation's cash, even if war breaks out in the

But Sheikh Salem Abdul Aziz Al Sabah, a member of the royal' family, said in an interview with Reuters that he would consider a shift in investment which could mean increasing holdings of U.S. treasury bonds to preference to

Such a switch in the nation's investment portfolio would help indirectly fund the United States m any war effort

The governor said even open conflict in the Gulf - provided it did not lead to huge demands for cash help from the United States and its allies - would not necessarily mean Kuwait having to liquidate its investments.

In this situation you are not necessarily liquidating. You are also moving from an equity to a treasury bond, to finance for example, the (United) States," he

The toppled Kuwain government, he said, could easily fi-

last quarter of this year. But if it had to raise that amount in one \$100 billion investments to raise month, then it would have to sell

> But he did not thak it was likely there would be demand for more cash. "So far, I'm seeing no tribute to the effort" of rebuildmore cash. "So far, I'm seeing no need to liquidate unless... the obligations are very high on a short term basis," he said.

The toppled government is contributing to the cost of the multinational force in the Gulf and to aid for "frontline states" hit by U.N. sanctions against

In addition, it is trying to help its citizens now in exile following the Iraqi takeover of Kuwait.

Finance Minister Ali Al Khalifa Al Sahah has said Knwait's overseas investments, controlled by the Knwait Investment Office to London, total about \$100 bilion and generate yearly revenue of some \$9 billion.

In addition to its investment income, Kuwait retains some 15 to 20 per cent of its old oil income, based ou sales of refined oil products from its European network of about 6,500 petrol stations and three refineries.

at new low LONDON (R) - The dollar The Kuwaiti Oil Minister

closed at a new European low Friday amid widespread speculation that the U.S. currency could head even lower after a brief period of consolidation.

to raise the money needed to Oil prices also suffered another sharp decline in Europe when a senior Iraqi official set off a wave of sell orders by introducing the possibility of a peaceful solution to the Gulf crisis.

Gold firmed \$6.50 an ounce to close in London at \$373.25 an ounce after a sharp fall earlier in the week.

Lower oil prices and an early surge on Wall Street combined with an overnight gain in Tokyo to lead European share prices to mostly higher levels.

The dollar hit a new European

traded low of 1.4950 marks in early business Friday and, despite small recovery, ended at its lowest all-time close in London at .5030 marks.

The U.S. currency was fairly steady against the yen, however, edging a touch higher to 125.95 ven from 125.25 in London Tues-

lay.
"We're at a certain level now where people are starting to think before going ahead, pansing for breath because the falls have been very fast," said Steve Major, currency analysts at London hrokers UBS Phillips and Drew.

Some traders see the dollar falling as low as 1.45 marks in the near-term. They said a brief recovery may be seen before the dollar slips to those levels.

But diplomats said Thursday that the U.S. may want to avoid letting markets think they can continue dollar selling at current

North Sea Brent blend, an international benchmark, slid to its lowest price in more than a month at \$33.30 a barrel after comments by Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan stripped the war premium out of the spot

"There is serious thinking to find a peaceful outlet to the crisis, he it on the Arah or European arenas," the Iraqi deputy prime minister said in Amman

Crisis in Gulf changes image of banking business in Jordan

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN - An uneasy calm appears to have set into Jordanian banking, with bankers reporting husiness as usual in personal accounts after a period of panic withdrawals prompted by fear of war in the Guif. But there is a sharp decline in export and import dealings as a result of the Gulf crisis and an acute shortage of foreign currency in cash.

"The pervading feeling is one of superficiality," said a senior official at one of the leading hanks. "Our dealings in letters of credit for imports have declined hy as much as 50 per cent, and most of our clients are also having problems in meeting their overdraft obligations," the official

There has been an increase in remittances from expatriates in other Gulf states such as Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Oatar because of fears of instability in the event of war." he added. "But this does not compensate for the sudden turnoff in the flow of funds from our

expatriates to Kuwait," he said. The estimated 250,000 plus Jordanian wage-earning expatriates in Kuwait sent home around \$300 million in 1989 and a conservative estimate put the figure around \$150 million in actual

million during 1990 compared official added. with \$640 million in 1989.

foreign exchange but the problem at his bank in the first few days bank notes." is that most of our clients had after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait been exporters to Iraq, and now on Aug. 2, agreed that there was with the international sanctions no pressure as far as personal against Iraq in place they are hard accounts are concerned, but the put to find alternative markets, sanctions against Iraq have dealt cent from its customers for bank and hence the decline in demand a severe blow to export and imfor export credit facilities," said an official at the Arah Bank.

Iraq, the main trading partner for Jordan, used to account for 25 per cent of all Jordanian exports and 40 per cent if phosphates and potash were excluded.

In addition, Jordanian hanks also used to serve as clearing bouses for Iraqi exports and imports through Aqaba and "this is an area where the entire scene is frozen," said an official at the Central Bank.

Banks affirmed that the spate of panic withdrawals from personal accounts and the switch to foreign currency has subsided, particularly with signals that a war may not be an immediate prospect in the region.

About 40 per cent of withdrawals from personal accounts during August and until mid-September have been returned to the accounts," said the head of receipts during the first six personal accounts at the Jordan months of this year. It was ex- National Bank. "Applications for pected that the total expatriate premature termination of fixed

port accounts.

Personal account holders have realised that our bank had very little to do with the economy of Kuwait despite our name, Sartawi told the Jordan Times. 'So, in this regard we are more or less out of trouble, but hanking in general has suffered a lot."

Dr. Maher Waked, executive director of Bank of Jordan, said the trend in Jordanian hanking was to turn more to personal accounts and facilities in a hid to make up for whatever is possible in terms of losses in other areas. But, he noted, "this is a limited area.

Some banks are offering credit facilities up to 10 times the Kuwait, the difference between monthly income of salaried employees and repayment periods of as much as 30 to 36 months.

Jordan Times said there was a acceptable under international steady demand for foreign cur- prudence that governments had rency in cash against a low level to step in only if the difference

remittances would reach \$800 deposits have also subsided," the the Grindlays Bank. "Many prefer to bave hard cash with them Sufian Sartawi, director-gener- under the so-called under-the-At least four Jordanian banks al of the Jordan Kuwait Bank, mattress assurance, and this has are reporting a similar situation. who had complained of panie led to the disappearance from the "We do have the liquidity in withdrawals and account closure market of foreign currency in

Most banks are bringing in foreign currency in cash from Europe through couriers and charging an extra two to five per notes in American dollars, sterling pounds and other European currency.

"We are requesting our customers to give us at least 48 hours of notice for mg amounts in foreign eurrency in cash," said another hanker. "This gives us time to fly in currency from

In the meantime, the drop in the value of the American dollar in the international market has yet to have any impact on the 'parallel (black) market' where the greenback was sold Thursday for 725 fils while the official rate set hy the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) was 655 fils.

Prior to the Iraqi invasion of the daily CBJ rate and the black market rate for the dollar was not more than 15 to 20 fils and senior All hanks contacted by the CBJ officials have said that it was of availability. "It is not a ques-non of liquidity," said a source at rency's value.

Iran to sell

gas to East

Europe via

next year

ning next year.

Soviet Union

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has

announced agreement with the

Soviet Union on a project to

export Iranian gas to Eastern

Europe via Soviet territory begin-

Finance Minister Mobsen

Nourbakhsh said Bulgaria,

Czechoslovakia, Romania and

Yugoslavia were interested in

buying the gas, the Iranian news agency IRNA said Thursday.

He discussed the project with

Soviet Railways Minister Mikolai

Konarev during a three-day visit

"It was decided that the project

be pursued vigorously to make it

become operational next year,"

IRNA quoted his as saying in

Tehran on his return from Baku.

The export plan is similar to

one which started in the 1970s

under the late Shah. Iran ex-

ported gas by a pipeline from its

southern fields to Soviet Azerbai-

ian, and Moscow sold gas on

Iran's behalf to several West

to Baku in Soviet Azerbaijan.

Austerity keeps Vatican deficit down

gave up first class flights, and secretaries who forsook pay rises have helped the Vatican contain its rising deficit.

The Vatican said Thursday austerity measures had helped it contain its 1989 operating deficit at \$54.7 million, \$11.2 million more than 1988 but \$23.3 million less than had been forecast, a statement said.

Vatican sources said all departments had been told last year to cut back expenses by 15 per cent and eliminate waste.

Everybody is trying to travel less, and those cardinals who used to fly first class are not doing it anymore," a Vatican source

U.S. dollar

One Sterling One U.S. dollar

One ounce of gold

'ORD GAME

er årn Lee

-رائرة .

: iggers to gr : 85 940 (100):

s 10:3000 1_1

VATICAY CITY (Agencies) — Departments were buying fewer newspapers, streamlining operations, not filling vacancies and

> Mariano Cerullo, president of the Lay Vatican Employees' Union, said some salaries had not

> world, the Observatore Romano newspaper and Vatican Radio.

ruptcy of Italy's Banco Amhro-

Japanese yen (for 100) 523.2 526.3 Dutch guilder 383.1 385.4

 Swedish crown
 383.1
 383.4

 Swedish crown
 116.1
 116.8

 Italian firs (for 100)
 57.7
 58.0

 Belgian franc (for 10)
 208.7
 210.0

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Dutch guilders

Swiss francs

Belgian francs

French francs

Japanese yen

Swedish crowns

Danish crowns

U.S. dollars

Norwegian crowns

Italian lire

The Holy See's income comes mostly from investments, real

Rasheed Salem Al Ameeri has

snggested that Kuwait would

have to increase its oil production

rebuild after liberation from Iraq.

ing the country, Al Ameeri told a news conference after addressing

revenues to rebuild Kuwait," Al

Ameeri told participants in the oil

We need huge amounts of

Al Ameeri said the countries

which have supported Kuwait

during the crisis should have

some input into oil pricing policy

Kuwait's reconstruction would

Al Ameeri said he couldn't

guarantee that Kuwait would

observe its quota of 1.5 million

barrels a day in effect before Iraq

invaded Kuwait. Analysts say

they believe that before the inva-

sion, Kuwait at times produced as

much as 400,000 barrels a day

following resolution of the crisis.

have to be a multinational effort.

He didn't elaborate.

an oil industry gathering.

"Knwait should be given the

The statement issued after a three-day meeting of cardinals who oversee finances, said the deficit had been contained because of a drive to save money and streamline operations.

As in past years, most of the deficit was covered by funds from "Peter's Pence," a special collection dating back 12 centuries, which is gathered once a year in churches around the world for the Pope's personal use.

charitable works.

Soaring energy prices push up U.S. inflation, widen trade gap

WASHINGTON (AP) - Surg- Donald Ratajczak, economist at ing oil prices drove imports to a Georgia State University. new record in Angust and helped propel the U.S. merchandise going to be plagued at least trade deficit to its highest level in through the end of the year by

Analysts said that excluding the oil factor, the trade picture actually improved as exports continned to grow moderately. Nevertheless, soaring energy costs were adversely affecting the economy and driving up inflation.

In its first report on America's trade gap since Iraq tovaded Kuwait on Aug. 2 and disrupted international oil markets, the Commerce Department said imports rose 1.8 per cent, to \$42.0 billion, while exports gained 1.6 per cent, to \$32.6 billion.

The difference meant a \$9.3 billion imbalance, up 2.4 per cent from July and the largest since a \$10.2 hillion gap last January. The non-oil deficit, on the other hand, fell from \$5.4 billion in July an annual rate of \$96.8 billion, to \$5.0 hillion the following

The previous record for improts was \$41.6 billion in March this year.

"If you throw out energy, the trade picture shows gradual con-tinning improvement," said dustrial goods will fall and offset already.

BUCHAREST (AP) - Prime

Minister Petre Roman Thursday

price and wage controls in con-

uction with a devaluation of the

The new measures, which take

effect Nov. 1, are "a leap toward

a market economy," but could cause inflation and unemploy-

ment, Roman said in a speech to

However, he said, "this is the

price we must pay to fill stores,

both houses of parliament.

lei currency.

and English.

announced the lifting of most

Nevertheless, "the deficit is

seven mouths, the government increasing oil imports," said eco-reported Thursday. notnist Mark Zandi of Regional Financial Associates in West Chester, Pennsylvania.

The volume of imported oil actually declined in Angust, down 10.3 per cent to 7.95 million barrels a day. But a befty 34.8 per cent price gain, to \$19.54 a barrel, pushed overail petroleum billion. And the price of oil has since doubled to nearly \$40 a

Bruce Steinberg, senior eco-nomist with Merill Lynch Capital Markets in New York, said despite the boost in the deficit, the trade gap still could end the year under \$100 billion for the first time since 1983.

For the first eight months of 1990, the deficit was running at compared to \$110.7 billion during the same period last year. Zandi said the nation's trade

problems could benefit from a weakening U.S. economy.

"What we may see is that

Romania lifts price, wage controls

Subsidies are to be maintained

for the moment on energy, rents.

clear how much the uncontrolled

prices actually would increase on

Items supplied hy less than three producers will remain price-

controlled because of insufficient

competition to regulate prices on

Under the centralised economy

and some food items. It was not

the economy."

Nov. 1.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

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lishment and requires an experienced executive secretary

able to perform both administrative and secretarial duties.

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copiers and telephone exchange is essential. Duties will

However, imports of foreignmade cars rose 2.1 per cent, to \$3.39 billion, in August,

Exports, on the other hand, rebounded from a 6.1 per cent decline in July.

"The good news is that the lower dollar is still belping on the export side and we saw at least a modest further increase," said economist David Jones of Aubrey G. Lanston and Co., a New York securines dealer. "The hope is that modest growth in the costs up 20.9 per cent to \$4.8 export sector will help offset the weakness we see in all the other major sectors of the economy." J. Antonio Villamil, Com-

merce Department chief economist, noted that "export growth has been the major contributor to the increases in overall economic activity during the year," and said, "we expect this trend to continue."

Indeed, fully one-third of overall U.S. economic growth for the last three years has been supplied by export sales. They had become even more important recently as consumer spending has slowed.

But economists believe the oilprice shock is likely to further weaken the economy and drive it into a recession — if it isn't there

inherited from the communists,

prices and salaries were set with-

out connection ot their real mar-

Since the December revolu-

tion, both productivity and pro-

duction have fallen by more than

20 per cent. But wages have increased by 11 per cent.
At present, 50,000 of the country's workforce of 12 million peo-

ple are registered as unemployed. But Roman warned that "hidden

unemployment" is much higher.

massive unemployment about

700,000 "inefficient" workers and

He estimated that to avoid

ket value.

European countries. Tehran halted gas exports to the Soviet Union a year after the 1979 Islamie revolution when Moscow rejected its demand for a

three-fold price rise. The gas flow resumed last April at a rate of three billion cubic metres a year. Iranian officials said prices would be set according to international rates

and estimated minimum annual revenue at \$300 million. Iran's largely-untapped gas re-

serves are second only to those of the Soviet Union. Nourbakhsh said the two sides

were discussing changes in the terms of gas sales to the Soviet Union in line with recent economic reforms there. He did not elaborate. He said the Soviet Union had

assured Iran that it was committed to completing development projects in Iran, including dams and power plants, on time.

another 300,000 of next year's graduates would have to be re-

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AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday, October 18, 1990

Central Bank official rates

Buy Sell

654.0

434.4 517.7

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) - Following are the buying and selling rates for

leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midsession

on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Friday.

1.9570/80

1.1645/55

1.5045/50

1.6965/75

1.2700/10

5.0410/60

1127/1128

126.85/95

5_5925/75

5.8525/75

5.7375/7425

372.50/373.00

30.93/98

650.0

431.8 514.6 128.2

CONCORD

LETHAL **WEAPON 2**

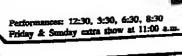


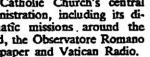
Tel: 675571

3:45, 6:15, 8:30

Cinema MUOUM

SHINING





It does not include the budget to run Vatican City, a sovereign walled state in Rome, or assets of the controversial Vatican bank, which was involved in a major

holding down salaries. estate holdings and contributions.

risen since 1985. The Holy See's budget covers the Catholie Church's central administration, including its diplomatic missions around the

scandal connected with the bank-

Before the Holy See hegan running large deficits to the 1980s, Peter's Pence was traditionally destined for missions and

WORLD STOCK MARKETS

TOKYO - Tokyo stocks closed firmer as the yen's strength and firmer bond prices lured investors from Japan and abroad back into the market. The Nikkei gained 114.41 points or 0.47 per cent to 24,481.49.

HONG KONG — The Hand Seng index closed 41.43 points up at 2,991.95. Reports that Iraq softened its tone raised some hopes of a peaceful solution of the Gulf crisis.

FRANKFURT - German shares ended a quiet trading session 0.8 per cent higher, with dealers generally confident that, barring a severe downturn in the Gulf crisis, the worst of its impact on share prices is now behind them. The 30-share DAX index ended 12.02 points higher at 1,482.09.

PARIS - French share prices were quoted slightly lower as operators decided to sell at the higher levels resulting from recent weaker oil prices. The CAC-40 index stood at 1,644.16 by 1150 GMT, down 3.51 francs from Thursday night's close.

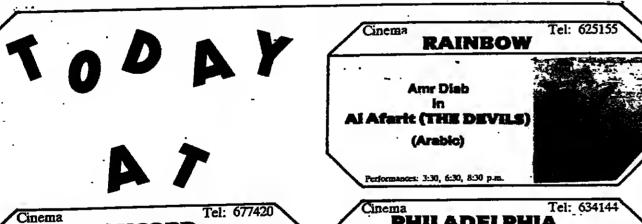
ZURICH - Shares ended higher to active trading, boosted hy lower oil prices and Wall Street's sharply higher opening. The SMI index of leading shares, was up 0.97 per cent at 1,484.5. LONDON - U.K. shares drifted lower in late end-of-account

trade after a midsession rally ran out of steam. Prices were

boosted by traders squaring short positions taken in the ERM

entry enphoria at the start of the two-week account. By 1510

GMT, the FTSE 100 index was 7.1 points up at 2089.7. NEW YORK - U.S. hlue chips edged lower as investors stepped back after running up prices sharply in early trading. The Dow was up about 27 to 2,480.



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Rebels blame Phnom Penh for escalating war, sabotaging peace

BANGKOK (R) — The Khmer Rouge said Friday the Phnom Penh government had begun a large-scale offensive against guerrilla strongholds, sabotaging a peace agreement reached by the warring Cambodian factions less than six weeks ago.

In a broadcast by its clandes-tine radio, the Khmer Rouge, strongest of three guerrilla groups in a coalition fighting the Phnom Penh government, said Phnom Penh and its Vietnamese backers were reneging on a United Nations plan endorsed in Jakarta to end the decade-old war.

'The (coalition) appeals to all friendly countries, near and far, to seek by all means to prevent the Hanoi authorities' and Phnom Penh factions' manoeuvre to sabotage the U.N. document and the Jakarta communique," the guerrilla radio said.

Up to 30 dead in Czech mine

Eight men were still missing 16 hours after the disaster, Czechoslovakia's worst in recent years, and the mine's manager said he did not think anyone had sur-

Rescuers worked all night to locate bodies and secure the mineshafts. All coalface work was stopped while safety teams

mines at Karvina, near the Polish border - said the reason for the explosion was not known. He said Friday morning that 19

bodies had been identified, two more were being brought to the surface and another man had died in hospital.

personal opinion is that there were no survivors," he said when asked about the fate of the eight

The explosion happened Thursday afternoon and was followed by a fire, which workers managed to put out.

were kept away from the scene of the accident. Carnecky said relatives of the dead and missing had been informed of the situation.

va some 20 kilometres away.

nelling work carried out by teams working in two-hour relays.

Dlouby. The prime minister of the Czech Republie, Petr Pithart, also travelled to Karvina.

Czechoslovakia's worst mining disaster since World War II hap-pened in July 1961 when 108 people died in a fire at the Dolni Sucha Mine in the Ostrava-Karvina Coalfield.

ment by the coalition's Foreign Ministry, which is controlled by the Khmer Rouge.

Officials of the coalition's other two factions said they had not approved the statement but agreed with its contents.

Moves by the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to allow the world body a central role in ending the war satlled when the Cambodian groups failed to agree on a Supreme National Council (SNC) to start the process off.

Indonesian Foreign Minister Ali Alatas said Thursday he would consult with France, fellow co-chairman of Cambodian peace talks, about holding another international peace conference.

Inside Camhodia, guerrillas said the government was building their war of aggression against up slowly towards a large-scale and occupation of Cambodia,"

in a few weeks. They said rains and rampant malaria had so far independently confirming reports limited movement of both sides.

Vietnamese troops to retake of sending in troops. guerrilla positions overrun when ago, they said.

Using helicopters, boats and overcome logistics problems vinces of Kompong Thom and caused by guerrilla sabotage and Kompong Cham. weather to move supplies from port at Kompong Som to western

Guerrillas said shelling had already begun in several areas.
"The (Khmer Rouge) sternly denounce and condemn the Hanoi anthorities for escalating

There has been no means of of Vietnamese troops returning The government had shipped to Cambodia. The tripartite coaliin large amounts of weaponry and tion has routinely accused Hanoi

The Khmer Rouge said Phnom Hanoi pulled out its forces a year Penh had launched attacks across the country since September, particular in the Western province of transport planes Phnom Penh had Battambang and the central pro-

Government forces had also Phnom Penh and the southern been sent to retake the Khmer Rouge-held town of Pailin, a gem-rich area less than 20 kilometres from the Thai border, the radio said.

On Friday guerrillas loyal to Prince Norodom Sihanouk overran a government base at Kauk Mon in northern Cambodia, officials from the faction said.



Margaret Thatcher

Thatcher loses party stronghold in shock by-election

LONDON (R) --- Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher suffered one of her biggest setbacks in 11 years in power Friday when ber ruling Conservatives lost a by-election in what had been one of their safest parliamentary seats.

Against a hackdrop of a worsening economy, the tiny Liberal Democrat Party overturned a Conservative majority of nearly 17,000 to carry the seaside town of Eastbourne hy 4,550

"This is the beginning of the end of Thatcherism as we know it," said David Bellotti, a 47-yearold local councillor who won the sensational victory for the Liberal Democrats.

Conservative legislator Ian Gow was killed by an Irish Republican Army car bomh in July. "This is a hammer hlow against the government," said Neil Kinnock, leader of the main opposition Labour Party, who hopes to oust Thatcher from the premiership in a general election due

ne later than mid-1992. Eastbourne lies in the Conservatives' electoral fortress affluent southern England. They held it since 1906 and it was among their 25 safest constituen-

Although the centrist Liberal Democrats have only 20 seats in the 650-seat House of Commons. they came in as runners-up to the Conservatives in many middleclass constituencies like Eastbourne in the last general election

Kenneth Baker argued on television early Friday: "I don't think you can read anything into this result about the outcome of the said.

Guillermo Endara, anthorities office issued a statement saying Chiriqui's Deputy Chief of Police next general election."

Political commentators said the reverse made it less likely that Thatcher would call a snap national ballot as early as next June, as some had speculated.

that British by-elections tend to yield fluke protest votes against the incumbent government.

when the nation has voted not to protest, hut to select a govern-Once, in 1983, a Liberal took a seat at Bermondsey in London from Labour with a staggering 44

be eclipsed at a general election

The leaflet said that anything

But politicians also saw a groundswell of anger over the handling of the economy - and Baker agreed that this would be crucial in coming months.

In her 11 years as prime minister, unprecedented this century, Thatcher has enriched millions of

The "iron lady" as the Kremlin state industries and curbed the power of trade union barons, whose pay claims once held the

But a credit-fuelled consumer boom in 1987-88 is now blamed for British inflation, currently running at almost 11 per cent. Interest rates are at staggering

14 per cent in a bid to cool the economy -- bad news in a nation where millions of families are bnying homes on mortgage loans. And a new poll tax to fund local government is deeply unpopular. Many poorer households are paying more than under a previous system which taxed Seoul from Dec. 11 to 14. Kang briefed President Rob

the 45-year cold war between the Tae-Woo at his official residence Friday afternoon and state radio two Koreas. The 63-year-old former general later reported Kang confirmed and his 89-member entourage the desire of North Korean Presicrossed the heavily fortified bordent Kim Il-Sung to meet Roh. der here to receive bouquets and "The people's expectations for greetings from 10 young women

remification of the South and the in billowing traditional dresses. North are very high, but we have "The ice is still frozen on the to take a step-by-step approach in resolving problems," the televitop, but we could feel that spring was arriving on North Korean sion quoted Roh as telling Kang. soil," Southern delegation The Pyongyang session, markedly less cordial than the spokesman Im Dong-Won told

reporters. first prime ministers' meeting in We now have confidence that Seoul in September, also underthe South and North will be able scored the great differences beto break the wall of distrust and tween the two Koreas, divided confrontation between the South and the North through these into hostile ideological camps since the end of World War II. high-level talks," he said.

Burma threatens to act against militant monks

RANGOON, Burma (AP) — broke up an anti-government de-Burma's military rulers have sent- monstration in Mandalay on Burma's military rulers have sentenced two dissidents to seven years in jail and warned Buddhist monks to end their boycott of religious ceremonies for soldiers by Saturday.

A government spokesman told news conference Friday that a military tribunal had sentenced two members of the National League for Democracy the pre-

The National League overwhelmingly won a general elec-tion on May 27, but the military government has barred it from office and arrested most of its leaders.

The two party members, Ohn Kyaing and Thein Tan, were arrested on Sept. 6 and accused of inciting unrest in the central city of Mandalay. Ohn Kyaing was a Central Committee member for the League in Mandalay and Thein Tan was a party orga-

On Thursday, Prime Minister Gen. Saw Maung warned monks in Mandalay, in the Monya region to the west, and in the national capital, Rangoon, to end a boycott of ceremonies for the

backed government of President

The government announced earlier Thursday that it had "frus-

trated" the apparent conp

attempt and had arrested four

According to a statement from

the president's office, the revolt

was to start with an attempt to

take over the northern province

collaborators and we are sear-ching for them," Chiriqui Tech-

nical Judicial Police (PTJ) detec-

tive Roberto Gonzalez told Reu-

ters in a telephone interview.

He said some 1,200 police were

involved in the hunt, including

many officers drafted to the

northern province from the capit-

"We have a list of some 30

police officials.

of Chiriqui.

Panama police launch

During the demonstration.

troops killed four people, including two monks. During a meeting with 19 senior monks in Rangoon, Saw

Maung said the boycott must end by Saturday. The meeting was broadcast on state radio and tele-"I have tolerated as much as I

can... I have decided to take measures that should be taken,' Saw Manng said, according to a transcript of the radio broadcast. About 85 per cent of Burma's opulation of 40 million are Buddhist and about 200,000 monks live in monasteries around

and rites of the people. On Sept. 6, monks in Mandalay announced their refusal to officiate ceremonies for soldiers and their families. The city, about 560 kilometres north of Rangoon. has been the centre of recent

anti-government protests. A Western diplomat in Rangoon, contacted from Bangkok, called the monks' action "the military they began after troops equivalent of excommunication."

ma City's PTJ told Reuters. The

PTJ is Panama's chief crime-

Earlier Thursday, Endara's

Carlos Ivan Moreno had confes-

sed to taking part in the plot,

ordering his men to launch two

recent bomb attacks against gov-

crument electricity plants in Chir-

had named the mastermind of the

plot as former national police

chief Eduardo Herrera, who was

ousted from his post in August.

Moreno, Herrera's brother Fran-

cisco -- also police captain -- and

two lower-ranking police officers,

the attorney general's office said.

Gonzalez said the 30 other suspects included some police-

men who were former members

The four arrested included

The statement said Moreno

fighting force.

dome springs a leak WASHINGTON (AP) -

the country. Monks play an important role in the celebrations

> Wine brawi wrecks wedding

from using the Gucci name on his products in Britain hy a judge who said he told lies in court. Sir Nicolas Browne-Wilkinson granted the Italian-hased Gucci Company an injunction stopping Paolo Gucci, 59, using the name on a planned range of ties, jewellery, pottery and furs for copyright reasons. The judge said the evidence he had seen pointed to "a persistent attempt to use the Gucci name and goodwill to the maximum extent he could get away with." "He seemed not duly concerned to be an accurate witness at the best of times and on occasions he told me deliberate lies." Browne-Wilkinson said. Britain is one of several countries where Paolo Gucci has fought in the courts to use the Gucci tradename for his own products. He lost in Italy, France, Belgium, Switzerland, but won in the United States, where he must nevertheless observe strict conditions. The judge said Paolo left the original Gucci firm in 1982 after arguments with his father Aldo. The firm, which was founded by Paolo's grandfather Guiccio in 1904, is now run by his cousin Maurizio who owns half the

German police find no evidence of fraud at former Communist HQ BERLIN (R) - Ahout 150 Modrow, but party workers even-PDS leaders coudemned the

armed police raided the headquarters of East Germany's reformed Communist Party early Friday, but they failed to discover evidence of a suspected 100 million mark (\$66 million) embezzle- Party of the Soviet Union.

About 80 plainclothes policemen, some wearing bullet-proof vests, searched the Party of Democratie Socialism's (PDS) headquarters for six hours. Scores of uniformed officers sat in police vans surrounding the

building. "There isn't slightest suspicion that the PDS put money aside or misappropriated funds," state prosecutor Bernd Stange told reporters afterwards.

The police acknowledged that they had no search warrant, but they met no violent resistance. Witnesses said the police threatened to break open the locked offices of party chairman Gregor Gysi and East Germany's

tually opened them. Stange said the police had found no evidence of embezzle-

ment, only money transfers made by the PDS to the Communist These transfers cover old liabilities incurred by the prede-cessor Party, the SED," Stange

said. Investigators were still checking whether the transfers were legal.
PDS Vice-Chairman Andre Brie said the payments were for student scholarships and an educa-

tion centre in the Soviet Union. He said they fulfilled commitments made by the PDS's predecessor, the Socialist Unity Party (SED), which imposed hardline Communist rule on East Ger-

many for 40 years. Brie said the PDS's only mistake had been not to tell a parliamentary commission investigating Communist property and funds about the transfers. It was last Communist premier, Hans not clear how much money was

police raid as an over reaction. One senior pary official, Klans Steinitz, said it reminded him of anti-Communist intimidation in the run-up to the Nazi takeover of Germany.

Apri-Communist resentment is still strong in East Germany. although the PDS has dissociated itself from the Communists' hardline rule.

Meanwhile a former West German diplomat admitted in court Thursday that he spied for nowextinguished East Germany for nearly 30 years. Hagen Blau, 55, told a Dues-

seldorf court be worked for East German intelligence while based in Bonn, Tokyo, Vienna and Sri

In a separate development President George Bush, without fanfare, Thursday signed ratification documents for the treaty formally ending the post-World War II division of Germany.

Yugoslavia names controversial Croatian to collective presidency

via's federal parliament moved Friday to defose mounting ethnic tensions and warnings of civil war by naming a controversial Croatian a member of the country's collective presidency.

Deputies from the largest Republic of Serbia, Croatia's traditional rival, had earlier blocked the election of Sti the collective ruling body, chargin he was a Croatian nationalist who seeks independence for Croatia.

But those objections apparently were dropped following moves

Mesie was proclaimed a member of the presidency to the applause of hundreds of deputies. The parliamentary session then adjourned, breaking into committee meetings.

The action indicated that leading politicians had decided in closed negotiations to postpone

federation, as advocated by Serbia, or becomes a loose confederation of six sovereign states, as demanded by Croatia and

pendence offered by crative solution.

Honrs hefore parliament

opened Friday, the Republic of of its militia reserves. The announcement, broadcast on Croatian and then Serbian television late Thursday, said

said it learned that arms had been distributed to some reserve

whether Yngoslavia remains a people at home and abroad will fight to protect the democracy it

> Croatia would not tolerate any "solutions that have proved fatal for the economic and democratic development." In recent months, members of

year and seek the greater inde- have staged demonstrations and seized arms from police, and some Serbs have called for absorbing areas of Croatia. Slovenia's delegate on the eight-member federal presidency,

Janez Drnovsek, said Serbia's Communist leaders were "forcing the federal concept that could Croatia ordered the mobilisation only lead to the breakup of the COUNTRY. Speaking at a news conference

in Ljubljana, the Slovenian capital, he added that rival leaders should continue their talks. . "At this moment it would be

extremely risky to stop a dialogue between republics that would lead to the final breakup of the country," he said. "A ceasefire should be introduced among the Tudjunan said Thursday that "if republics to create a positive

the scheduled crucial debate on necessary, the entire Croatian atmosphere for negotiations." Pakistani politicians strike at U.S. to hit Bhutto

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Benazir Bhutto's political opponents have found a potent response to growing sympathy for the ousted prime minister: Americabashing. President Ghulam Ishaq Khan

ousted Ms. Bhutto, accusing her of corruption and mismanagement, on Aug. 6. She is running in next week's general election despite facing a court battle. But Khan's hand-picked caretaker government is pressing an aggressive campaign against her.

They filed charge after charge against her, her father-in-law and a half-dozen former cabinet ministers alleging they used their power to get rich fast. They jailed her husband on charges of kidnapping and extortion.

They branded her an unbeliever, an enemy of Islam and a traitor.

But the onslaught only damaged the credibility of the president and the caretaker governmeut, making both appear vindictive and generating sympathy for Ms. Bhutto and her populist, centre-left Pakistan People's Partv (PPP).

It seemed nothing could stop

her unexpected rebound. The U.S. Ambassador Robert Oakley, in a speech in Washington, noted that Ms. Bhutto's opponents are not above reproach. Pakistanis have voiced similar views, but many were outraged by Oakley's comments.

Newspapers wrote numerous editorials accusing Washington of hlatant interference and suggested U.S. influence over this country of 110 million people should be greatly curtailed. Some caretaker ministers called Oak-

Egypt and Israel. It has also been conduit for an estimated \$300 million in assistance to the Afghan resistance during the 12year-old civil war in Afghanistan.

court - not the U.S. Congress to decide

In the rhetoric of the People's "It played nicely into her oppodampened the PPP. Now the momentum may be swinging the

other way."

in the United States, is considered by many in the West, especially the United States, as a symbol of democracy in South Asia. She has captialised on that image and cemented strong ties with Washington.

An undercurrent of anti-Americanism always rnns through Pakistan, which tends to hlame the United States for all its problems during times of crises. 'It surfaced again on Oct. 1 when Washington suspended a \$573 million aid package demanding greater assnrances that

Pakistan neither possesses nor wants to possess nuclear weapons. The caretaker government blamed Bhutto for the aid suspension, a charge she dismissed. Ms. Bhutto, her mother and

the PPP have been lobbying in the United States to get our aid stopped," caretaker Prime Minister Ghulam Mnstafa Jatoi charged Thursday." "They have been working against the national interest for the sake of their petry benefit to pressure the government of Pakistan and to win in the election."

Even though he mentioned no one by name, Pakistan's most powerful soldier, army Chief-of-Staff Gen. Mirza Aslam Beg. issued his own warning — to the Americans and to Pakistan's next prime minister. Military sources said it was the first time he has made such comments.

In an hour-long speech to his

vowed Pakistan would not compromise its principles. He warned leaders not to look for "outside direction or guidance.

political guidance and support for promoting their political ambitions are certain to be frustrated," he said.

"There's a lot of nationalism now in Pakistan," said one Commonwealth diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity. There's a growing feeling that Pakistan needs to be more

ing Bhutto of generating fears of martial law and cancelled elec-

posed." Jatoi said a news confer-"Elections will be held, elections will certainly be held and elections are going to be held," Jatoi emphasised. "By the grace

of God, I can say ten times over

that elections will be held on Oct.

in direct contact with God Almighty, she may have information that she is going to be arrested, but we have no inten-

hunt for coup suspects PANAMA (R) - Panamanian are going to be more arrests," polic launched a massive hunt in detective Carlos Nunez, of Pana-Bnt Conservative Chairman northern Panama for suspects believed to have been behind an apparent plot to topple the U.S.-

But they agreed with Baker Minority Liberals have staged mid-term npsets before, only to

per cent voting swing. Friday's swing against the Conservatives

was 20 per cent. The protest in Eastbourne, home to many retired gentlefolk, may in part have reflected what the Liberal Democrats, crying "foul play," said was an offensive Conservative campaign leaflet ahont the killing of much-

respected Ian Gow. other than a Conservative win would be a moral victory for his Irish Republican Army (IRA)

killers.

middle class Britons with an aggressive free marketeering policy. called her has cue taxes, sold off

nation at ransom.

through open bow doors, the

of the Panamanian Defence al. A police official in the capital Force (PDF) loyal to deposed said arrests were imminent. Panamanian strongman Manuel "In the next few hours, there Noriega. U.K. firm, crew acquitted

of ferry disaster charges

LONDON (R) — A judge Friday cleared British shipping company P and O European Ferries Limited of manslaughter charges arising from a 1987 capsize of a ferry in the Channel in which 193 people died.

The judge also acquitted seven individual P and O former employees who were on trial. They included the captain of the ferry Herald of Free Enterprise, other crew members and company offi-It was only the second time in

British legal history that a company had faced charges of manslaughter. The ferry capsized as it left the Belgian port of Zeebrugge on

March 6, 1987. The judge directed that charges against the company and five individuals be dropped. Moments later the prosecutor said it would not be in the public interests to proceed against the other two

jury to bring in not guilty verdicts on the two The Herald of Free Enterprise took just two minutes to keel over after it had left the port, when water flooded into the hold

The judge then directed the

channel since World War II. Almost all the dead were British. The trial came to a dramatic halt after 27 days with the prosecution abruptly winding up its case after calling only 66 of a total of 138 witnesses. If followed a rare warning from the judge Thursday in the abs-

It was the worst disaster in the

tion was in his view unable to prove its case. The judge told the jury Friday: "It is my judgment if this case was to proceed I can see no possibility as a matter of law that I could do other than withdraw it from the jury on the basis that evidence

already called is such that you,

properly directed, could not

ence of the jury that the prosecu-

properly convict the company and the five most senior defen-. P and O chief marine superintendent Jeffrey Develin, deputy chief marine superintendent John Alcindor, technical director Wallace Ayres, senior master John Kirby and the captain of the Herald, David Lewry, had all

denied manslaughter. So had the two remaining defendants, chief officer Leslie Sabel and assistant Bosun Mark





Stallone protected

LOS ANGELES (R) - Film star Sylvester Stallone, who beat heavyweight boxing champions as Rocky and won wars single-handed as Rambo, was given court protection - from a woman fan. The woman, Elfie Wade, was alleged in court documents to have written more than 200 letters and postcards to the actor in the past 20 months, telling him "I can't want to get my paws on you." Wade was ordered by Superior Court Judge Irving Shimer to keep at least 300 metres from Stallone and from his beach home in the film star colony of Malibu, and not to telephone or write to him for at least the next three years. "I am extremely concerned that Ms. Wade may be a great danger and threat to me," Stallone wrote in a letter to the court. "The letters and cards...contain numerous references to violence." Wade was quoted as telling Stallone in one letter submitted to the court: "I'll tie you up if you try to escape from me." Stallone is the latest in a line of stars, including Michael I. Fox. Michael Landon, singer Anne Murray, and television talk show host David Letterman, who have been stalked by obsessed

U.S. Capitoi

Already besieged by a storm of criticism for its budget failures, Congress was hit with a real storm Thrusday. Driving winds and rain caused a massive leak in the Capital Dome and Shredded flags flying atop the congressional office buildings. Water poured onto the floor of the rotunda from the balconies above. Statues of Abraham Lincoln and others were draped with plastic sheeting to protect them from the cascade. Workers said the strong winds had driven rain past drains on the newly restored dome and into the Building.

MILFORD, Connecticut (AP) A dispute over three cases of leftover wine at a wedding reception erupted into a brawl, which ended with the arrest of the bride's father and of members of the wedding party. Michael Cal-ise, whose daughter was married. had paid for the wine and wanted to take it home when the reception ended. But Rolando Trovini owner of the reception hall, said state liquor law prohibits removing liquor from the hall. "We ended up being assaulted." Calise said. "Physically and psychologically battered. They descended on us so quickly - it was the most astounding thing that's ever happened to me." Trovini called police, who arrested Calise, 50, on charges of interferring with police, breach of peace and refusing to he fingerprinted. His danghter, Maria, 27, a hridesmaid, and his son, Frank, 23, also were arrested for interferring with police. Two other people also were arrested. Trovini, owner of Sante's Manor, told police the wedding party caused \$6,000 worth of damage. "They pay for six hours of wedding - it doesn't mean they can take the place with them," he said.
"There was a lot of chaos here."

Judge stops Gucci grandson from using name of family firm LONDON (R) — A grandson of

the founder of the chic leath-

erware house Gucci was banned

explosion

KARVINA, Czechoslovakia (R) --- At least 22 people died when a methane gas explosion and fire ripped through a Czechoslovak coal mine 750 metres under-

inspected shafts and tunnels. Jan Carnecky, director of the First of May Complex — three

"I can't tell you for sure but my

Reporters and photographers

The blast occurred at the Barbora Mine in the First of May Colliery, part of a large coalfield stretching from the city of Ostra-Methane escaped during tun-

of workers, 100 men in each gang Government investigators rushed to the scene, headed by Economy Minister Vladimir

within the eight-man presidency, which contains representatives from each of Yugoslavia's quarrelling regions, to defuse ten-

ley's statements undiplomatic; one demanded that Washington replace him. Pakistan is the third-largest recipient of American aid after

The Oakley fire subsided briefly. Then 53 U.S. senators reportedly wrote a letter to President George Bush warning that economie and military aid would be cut off if Ms. Bhutto were disqualified from the election. Forty-four Pakistani senators wrote a hlistering response, saying that was a matter for the

Party, Ms. Bhutto "became the American puppet, someone willing to give away her country's sovereignty," said one Western diplomat, insisting on anonymity. nents' hands. They parlayed in nicely into an election issue and

Ms. Bhutto, who was educated

Croatia and Slovenia elected center-right governments to replace Communists earlier this the Serbian minority in Croatia

Serbia, by contrast, is still controlled by Communists and wants power to remain in Belgrade, the federal and Serbian capital.

only that Croatia was conducting a "routine check" of reserve units. The state news agency Tanjug

Croatian President Franjo

troops earlier this week, Beg

"And those looking for such

aligned with the Islamic World and less with the Western world." The Pakistani premier Thursday accused politicians support-

"The politicians who are going to face defeat are spreading rumours that elections will be cancelled and martial law im-

"If Bhutto is an astrologer, or tion to do so," said Jatoi.

